

Friday October 25 1980  
60.752  
x twenty pence

# Canada House of Commons in uproar over 'patriation'

House of Commons in Ottawa yesterday passed its controversial proposals to 'patriate' Canadian Constitution from Westminster in scenes of uproar and anger.

## Note asks Britain to transfer Constitution

John Best  
Oct 25  
In scenes of bedlam, the House of Commons yesterday passed a resolution to 'patriate' the Canadian Constitution. The resolution, which was passed by a vote of 215 to 150, asked the British Government to transfer the Constitution to Canada.

## Members demand to be heard

The Liberal Government is expected to go further in its attempt to 'patriate' the Constitution by passing an amendment to the Constitution Act, 1982, which would give the provinces a say in the process.

## Westminster's power of amendment

It can be amended in certain important respects only by decisions taken in Westminster. One example of this is the distribution of powers between the federal and provincial legislatures.

## And's free union wins recognition but supremacy clause angers leaders

A Trevisan  
Oct 24  
The Polish authorities today gave the legal recognition to the Solidarity trade union, but the move was greeted with anger by the Communist leadership.

## Leak no security threat, editor says

Treasury, Mr. Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday said that the disclosure of a secret document, which was said to contain details of the government's defence strategy, was not a security threat.



The Prince of Wales (second from left) jumping a fence yesterday on Allibar in the Club Amateur Riders' Handicap Steeplechase at Ludlow. The Prince finished second behind Hello Louis. Report, page 7.

## Unions accept 'Times' decision as final

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor  
Newspaper union leaders yesterday accepted the decision of the Thomson British Holdings to cease publishing The Times and The Sunday Times.

## H-block men 'ready to meet agonizing death'

By Christopher Thomas  
Republican prisoners in the H blocks in the Maze plan to begin their threatened hunger strike on Monday, in spite of the Government's important concession abolishing the wearing of prison uniform.

## GLC wants nuclear waste ban

The Greater London Council is expected to seek ways to ban the transport of nuclear waste through the capital if talks with the Central Electricity Generating Board, the Department of Transport, British Rail and the Atomic Energy Authority fail.

## Postal rates to go up in January

By Robin Young  
Consumer Affairs Correspondent  
The Post Office intends to increase the price of a first-class letter to 14p and that of a second-class letter to 11p in January.

## No compromise over Palestine

There will be no compromise on the main issues dividing Israel and Egypt in the deadlocked talks on Palestinian autonomy, Mr. Begin said on the eve of his departure for Cairo.

## Iraqi claim of victory challenged by Iran

From Tewfik Mshlawi  
Beirut, Oct 24  
Iraq today said its forces had imposed 'complete control' on the embattled Iranian port city of Khorramshahr after wiping out all pockets of resistance.

## Mr Foot enters PLP poll dispute

Mr Michael Foot, a contender for the Labour leadership, has joined the dispute with the parliamentary party over its rights in deciding the leadership.

## Welsh campaign over jobless

Plaid Cymru delegates at their annual conference supported a call to mount a civil disobedience campaign to draw attention to the horrendous scale of unemployment in Wales.

## Master of hounds killed fox

A Master of Fox Hounds was prosecuted in Jedburgh sheriff court for pursuing a fox into a factory at Hawick, Roxburghshire, and killing it. He then threw the body to the hounds.

## UK urged to join money system

Mr Roy Jenkins, outgoing President of the European Commission has urged Britain to become a full member of the European Monetary System.

## Meter maids to enforce gutter tactics in Paris

From Ian Murray  
Paris, October 24  
The periwinkle, so the dictionary tells us, is a hardy plant of considerable value in shady places in Paris the periwinkle is also the polite nom de guerre given to parking meter maidens, whose bright blue uniforms both give them their nickname and act as a warning signal to erring motorists.

## Clocks go back

British Summer Time ends officially at 3 am tomorrow, when clocks go back one hour to Greenwich Mean Time. BST resumes on Sunday, March 29 next year.

## How to enjoy a gilt-edged future

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## Recitation can show his worth again

Richard Head's 10-year-old is reported to be in fine fettle, but his owner, who has no racing signs are fixed on the King George VI Steeplechase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day.

Winter incident may not yet be forgotten by those who have been away to Stopped and Dramatic Stopped and who de Hean have been in the hands of the racing and their only defeat in the last five outings was when Stoppe fell in the Cornish Challenge Cup. Stoppe was easily at Kempton this season and the handicapper must have been in a quandary.

The mile and a half St Simon Stakes is the last pattern race to be run in England this season and it is a pity that it is not the obvious choice. But Ham Joel, four-year-old was desperately tired and it was a good enough race for him to show enough to suggest a place in the Cusack and Lodge Stakes at Ascot. Nicholas, a three-year-old, was the Irish mile. Snow, who qualified so well in her victory in the Surbiton Stakes, was at a disadvantage as Nicholas' Bill covered his ground, victory when sent to Detroit in the Prix de Paris de Strophe and in

Paris, Oct. 24

Some of the best racing of the season will take place at Longchamp on Sunday, which features the Group 1 Prix de la Forêt and Irish-trained runners in both events and the Group 2 Prix de la Forêt to be first to cast the post in both. He partners Moorehead for his brother-in-law, Aurling Forest and Aurling for Irish trainer Kevin Prendergast, who is also in the field.

Moorehead is no stranger to France, where earlier this month he won the Prix de l'Abbaye de Longchamp from Sharp in April, and he is expected to improve his record further by finishing second in the Prix de la Forêt des Poindins (French) 2,000 Guineas, which the 3-year-old colt called only by a short margin in his debut.

Moorehead is a 1990 yearling, a weight-for-age to Britton in France's Prix Maurice de Gheest.

The main danger must come from the brilliant filly Kilijaro whose last four outings have resulted in group wins in the Prix de Montauy, Quincey, the Prix de la Vallée de l'Oise and the Prix de la Vallée de l'Yonne. My only misgiving about Kilijaro concerns her stamina, as she has yet to meet really top class horses over the longer distances of three and six furlongs.

Better in with the weights, Kilijaro was a short neck behind in the Montauy in the hands of the French-trained jockey, Lucien Gaudy. As Yaman ben Luck O' the Draw, trained by Richard Bern, in the Prix de la Vallée de l'Oise, she was a poor second after a positive drop test.

Princess Lida piped Saffra in the Prix du Pin; Bardeneac and Tropicair—winner of the Critérium de France—were also well considered. An interesting rumour in the Forest is the Irish colt Crofton who has won his last three races, but is a "hidden

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218	0	The Gasconade, A. Seeger, 5-7-12	2	D. McKay	8
219	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
220	0	Oranmore, R. Atkins, 10-7-9	0	D. Bourian	7
221	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
222	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
223	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
224	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
225	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
226	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
227	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
228	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
229	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
230	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
231	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
232	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
233	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
234	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
235	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
236	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
237	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
238	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
239	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
240	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
241	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
242	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
243	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
244	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
245	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
246	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
247	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
248	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
249	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
250	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
251	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
252	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
253	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
254	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
255	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
256	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
257	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
258	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
259	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
260	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
261	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
262	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
263	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
264	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
265	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
266	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
267	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
268	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
269	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
270	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
271	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
272	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
273	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
274	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
275	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
276	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0
277	0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0	0-2-0-0

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Weigh-in at Sun City: Weaver (left) was 16½ lb heavier than Costree yesterday.

From Eric Marsden  
Sun City, Bophuthatswana  
October 24

Two twenty religious young men who dislike hating others and would rather be doing something else will attempt to knock each other's heads together in front of a crowd of 100,000 at the wide television audience of 500 million.

The contest for the World Bantustan heavyweight title between the holder, Mike Weaver, of Texas, and Gerrie Coetzee, the South African contender, has aroused a political controversy, mainly because it is being staged at a pleasure resort in the heart of one of Africa's poorest states, Bophuthatswana, which is a white-minority state. Bophuthatswana's sovereignty is not recognized by the United Nations. The Reverend Jesse Jackson and other anti-apartheid campaigners tried unsuccessfully to dissuade the black champion from fighting in Bophuthatswana, which they regarded as a puppet of South Africa's white-minority government. The African National Congress (ANC) has denounced Bantustans as "Apartheid Peoples' Organization," which even at this late hour is urging him to withdraw from the contest.

Weaver is reported to have been guaranteed a purse of about £1.5m, which is many times more than he would have received at home. Coetzee will receive only about £80,000 and says that if he wins he will give more than half of it away to pay for the education of one black and one white child from needy families.

Sun City is 120 miles north of Johannesburg, in one of the poorest of the ten independent black homelands of Bophuthatswana. Its casino, extravagance, theatre, uncensored cinemas, Gary Venerable's disco, and the public and private game reserve, make it a magnet for the tired businessmen, prospectors, resting aircrew and the unemployed. It is the heart of the gold reef, who flock in at weekends to spend freely at the gaming tables and enjoy the indoor and

Inevitably comparisons are made with the more modest lifestyles of the pleasant and depressed workers of Bophuthatswana, thousands of whom live in overcrowded shanty towns like the townships of Soshale and Maseru. So let us turn to another town, So Gakuru, another one otherwise known as the Sun City has a telling answer. "Sun City has a serious problem," says thousands of Bophuthatswana businessmen stimulated the economy through tourism and brought it worldwide publicity."

In the last month this African state has seen a flurry of activity, with workmen hammering up an instant stadium while in the meantime the Reverend Coetzee and Mike Weaver worked out the public for hotel guests and staff. Publicity-shy Coetzee stayed in Johannesburg and spared behind closed doors.

This week Weaver's family and friends flew in from the United States. They included a reveller, a friend of Weaver's, who has guided him spiritually since he was 17. When anti-apartheid campaigners put pressure on Weaver to refuse to fight, he said he would sue them. He said he was a friend of the Reverend Elsie, who told him after a prayer session that "The Lord okayed the trip." In a contest of two floors above the casino, Coetzee is praying for Weaver victory.

Coetzee, who is also a devoted churchman, said after being on television for a while he did not know the last year that it secret God did not want him to be a champion, but now sees his secret God as a blessing. "I was looking for the Lord," said Weaver with a fifteen-round knockout last March.

The fight, which is being telecast by CBS, will be seen in most countries, but not in America. There, according to the promoter, John Linn, it will be shown later. "I don't know," said Weaver, "because of fears that the South Africa or Bophuthatswana authorities may try to insert some kind of

Jim Warr's world lightweight championship contest against Sean O'Grady next week was plunged into uncertainty yesterday when the American encourage threatened to pull out. The threat came from the boxer's father and mentor demanded to know the names of the three people who will officiate at the contest in The Kelvin Hall in Glasgow. The fight has a 48-hour deadline for his request to be met.

Otherwise we will just pack our bags and head for home," said O'Grady. "This is not an idle threat and there's nothing anyone can do to stop us."

The boxer's father and mentor said they were based on unconfirmed reports from London,

where Warr is training under the supervision of Jim McEneaney, Terry Lawless, the names of the officials would not be released until just before the fight.

O'Grady's press man said O'Grady said "It is the challenger's prerogative to know the officials in advance so that we have the proper respect any anyone we are not happy with."

The cost was about \$2,000 already but that's not going to prevent me sticking to their deadline."

The boxer's manager from Oklahoma said: "If he tells me to pack my bags I'll do exactly what he says. The only is to get the referee's name out of the settle the dispute quickly."

By Sydney Friskin  
When Ray Reardon finds his slow motion rhythm, that when he becomes a little bit deadly. These words were spoken by Bill Werbeniuk, the jovial Canadian professional as he watched Reardon's brilliant play in the semi-final round of the world team snooker championship in London, England, last night.

Reardon had just completed a remarkable break of 77 to put him into the final with the Irishmen to two. It was made up of eight reds, six blacks, one pink, one blue and the white ball, all colours. It was a surprise for Taylor, who had done nothing wrong, and had in fact taken the match with a score of 43-2. That was as far as he went.

But most of the afternoon's glories came in the final, when twice restored Ireland's fortunes, coming from behind to beat Terry Griffiths and level the score at 2-2 and giving Doug White a dose of the same medicine for 3-3. Griffiths, who had made an

to lose the frame to Higgins, mounted a charge and began the afternoon will for White by beating Patsy Fagan 2-1. But Fagan, who had beaten Griffiths, and Higgins went into the interval on frame 4-3.

The pulse of this tournament was set on Tuesday night when Ireland beat Australia 1-0 to qualify for the semi-final round. The foundations of victory were laid in the first frame, when five frames he played. But it was Higgins who struck the final blow with a break of 69 in the second frame. Charleton 2-1 in a tempestuous chat. Bill Higgins has charged an inch and a half off his cue and thickened the air with his words.

**SCORES:** Group C: Ireland beat Australia 1-0; Fagan beat Griffiths 2-1; Taylor beat Reardon 1-0; Taylor beat White 1-0; Taylor beat Higgins 1-0.

**SEMI-FINALS:** Ireland beat Griffiths 2-1; Reardon beat Taylor 2-1; Taylor beat White 2-1; Taylor beat Higgins 2-1.

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ADLAIDE: Wm. Lyles, 130  
R. Shaw, 72. 87. 111. W. Dimes, 71  
70. 142. T. Gale, 71. 73. 130. D.  
Eichengruber, 68. 78. 69. G. Smith,  
70. 74. Brush and John Grover, 74.  
M. Esmier, 73. 72. 130. S. Ter-  
rance, 75. 75. D. 74. 74. 141.  
P. Beames, 76. 76. P. Keeling, 77. 75.



A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a person in profile, facing right. The person is wearing a dark, hooded garment, possibly a sweatshirt or jacket, which is pulled up over their head. Their right hand is raised, holding a lit cigarette. The image is characterized by extreme contrast, with deep blacks and bright whites, giving it a grainy, almost stencil-like appearance. The background is dark and indistinct, with some vertical lines suggesting an interior setting. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

# Dazzled by Raymond

blame in inverse ratio to commonly held opinion.

Harold's devotion to Raymond did not prevent his teasing him. And in these early days of their friendship it amused Harold to introduce Raymond to his literary friends eminent outside Bloomsbury, of whose fringe Raymond was a bright adornment. "It is very good for him", Harold wrote mischievously, "to get out of his little sterile circle of mutual admiration." He introduced him to the American poet, Archibald MacLeish. It was not a success. Harold fancied that Raymond felt, if not out of his depth, then out of his element. "Was it possible that there could be a *bûcheau* (however irre) moderaer than himself?" Harold wondered; and fancied Raymond answering, "No, it was not possible, the man was merely a prig; and in any case he would look very foolish, very ponderous, in Gordon Square (Puss, puss puss)."

The sort of things which Harold knew Bloomsbury

staying at Sheffield. With, amongst others, Raymond. In truth Harold' was by now in love more than he had ever been since his marriage in 1913. He discussed his emotion with Vita, and then wrote to her in somewhat equivocal terms:

"Please realise that it is not important—but only important enough to emerge from an emotion to an attitude—and as such implying deception on my part if concealed. I feel a great load off my chest. I simply loathe to get into a false position with you.

On the contrary the affair was more important to both parties than Harold's words to Vita suggested. The whole thing worried him. He actually expressed the hope that Raymond might care for him less than he cared for Raymond. He did not want to be led into the same predicament that Vita found herself in during her love affair with Violet Trefusis, a predicament from which he had suffered so much. In other words he did not want to lose his head, and

nosseive, although envious of others enjoying the favour of the man he denied to him. He managed to keep his emotions under control. Nevertheless Raymond remained "at the back of everything & everything is conditioned in its importance by its reference to you, Vita, I mean, all, what and who are you to have secured so masterful an obsession?"

The obsession, judging by the spate of letters which passed between the two, lasted throughout 1925 and 1926 before settling into a more personal and happy affection. And all the while Vita hovered serenely in the background, not disapproving, nor minding, but smiling beneficently upon Raymond. The relationship between the three was unclouded until the end of their days. As Harold wrote to Vita in 1952:

What a good affectionate friend he is. He is devoted to us. It is a comfort to have such a friendship in one's life. There is a power of sympathy in Vita not for me I mean (since I require no sympathy being a happy bumble bee) but for other people less fortunate. The only thing he is asking about is fraudulence

egoistic that she liked to destroy relationships. But I feared he had behaved in detached and timorous manner which was not excusable in a host, and had not been loyal to a husband. The incident was a great relief to me, and I was provoked him on his return to London next Monday morning to write Vita a long letter in which he tried candidly to analyze his feelings about her complicated emotional situation at that time.

My darling, I have been rather worried about it. But I don't mind business, because I feel you don't understand, but because I'm rather ashamed of myself about it. All I really don't like being mean, and I feel that about that I was rather mean.

Let's try and get it clear.

(1) I have a selfish & distinctive dislike of Vita. Because: (a) I am a little jealous because of you. My foolish moments I think she encourages you to find and exploit emotional moments which would otherwise be casual. (b) In my worst moments I regard her as beneficent safety valve. (b) I don't like her claustrophobia. I shouldn't like it

affected to despise her, whose horizons were broader than theirs thoroughly enjoyed. He went to stay at Blenheim Palace. The King of Portugal and Winston Churchill were guests. It was all very grand and pompous; and it was great fun. There was a fête in the afternoon; a ball in the evening. He went for a walk with Professor Lindemann, discussing the future of science. A week later he went to stay at Chartwell with the Churchills. The weather was very hot. It was 80 in the shade. Winston was so delighted with his house, which was only fairly nice, that it was a pleasure to witness his enthusiasm. He considered it a paradise on earth. Only the beautiful, spinx-like Lady Gwendolen (Goonie) Churchill, Harold's friend from Oxford days, and the sister of Tata Bertie and now the wife of Winston's younger brother, Jack, was staying. "and a red-headed Australian journalist called Bracken. A most self-conscious and I should think wrong-headed young man." They motored back to London next day. Winston driving. It was a perilous proceeding. They broke down two or three times on the way.

The summer of 1925 was brimful of delights—dining with Lady Ottoline Morrell and sitting next to Virginia Woolf, whose *Mrs Dalloway* he was reading in ecstasy lunching with Lady Ribblesdale, and

his heart, even temporarily, to the extent of causing Vita to weep. As though to avoid misunderstanding, he warned Raymond against any assumption that he might be tempted to do so. Thus he wrote to him in a round about manner:

It would be too awful if you ever came to my des and my surroundings. You know much more than I do and you are an angel of wisdom and tact about it all. You said this time that there has never happened to me since I came to be irresponsible [although, as he expressed it, "there have been occasions enough"] to realize in my optimistic way, that if it did happen, I should find it difficult to reconcile my desires & my duties. I should like to go away alone with you somewhere for a few weeks. But I can't; and that's the fly in the ointment. But it's a less irksome fly than others might be, and I don't think it need really spoil it all. After all, half a loaf is ever so much better than a whole one.

It is questionable whether Raymond thought so when he made it clear that in Harold he had found the love of a lifetime.

Harold certainly did not allow himself to throw his cap over the windmill. He was surprised himself. He was surprised by having vent to his feelings in his letters to him. Inhibitions made him resentful of these feelings; almost angry with and contemptuous of himself for harbouring them. He was not by nature very glib, and in spite of being a very lustful man, he was not

Harold was enjoying life so much that he was almost indifferent to the troubles in the world—the antagonism of China towards the community at Shanghai, the new German objection to the Reparations Pact, and the industrial situation at home which was as black as it could be. What did they matter when Vita had written a really splendid passage on craftsmen in *The Land? How much more interesting was it discussing with Clive, Virginia and Roger Fry the question whether they were snobbish. The three of them agreed that they were either socially or intellectually snobbish. Harold disputed this bold disclaimer. They spoke of T. S. Eliot's affected integrity, which Harold again was alone in suspecting to be false. He saw in Eliot a tendency to cultural exhibitionism. It was evident in *The Sacred Wood*. When the French Ambassador came to the office, begging Harold to take back a Note which he had sent to the inter-Allied debts, and Harold refused, he was indifferent to the whole business and its consequences. He was much more concerned by Elizabeth Bibesco's strange behaviour while staying in London. She had been in a foul mood and tried to make trouble over Dotie, who was also staying. Poor Vita was ruffled. They were all ruffled, and went to bed feeling that something was amiss with the great Mrs. Long. But Elizabeth did not believe that Harold was really evil, only so insanely and miserably*

it was an eagle-headed strong planned desire to escape. But I should respond to it. As it is I regard it as sparrow-fluttering of egotism—and my dislike is increased by contempt.

(1) I should like to be vain (11) I know hate her who tries to be intelligent since she cannot get her brain round a single impersonal concept (12) I should like to be an intellectual snobbishness on my part being identified with an intellectual flutter: (13) I should like to be a lousy of her poetry—because it is that way she talks (14) I should like to be a half of fury when you took me over her poem (The other half was fury at your trying me).

(1) I am a sore and I about to burst and feel it is fault I don't mean I really think it her fault, but Gerry couldn't try to relief by projecting itself to her.

(2) I am fond of Dotie.

(3) Because she is brave.

(4) Because she is proud and soft.

(5) Because she is foolish.

(6) Because one can talk her about anything.

(7) Because she is rich.

(8) Because Geoffrey became a fool.

(9) He talks better than I do.

(10) He worries you.

(11) He sits up a yellow and she sits up late and slabby.

(12) Because he is more snobbish than I am, and is impressed by snobbishness.

(13) I am rather a worm.

(14) Elizabeth, because

[illegible]

When the First World War was over Harold Nicolson was sent to Paris on the British Delegation of the Peace Conference. There he was a spectacular success, being awarded the C.M.G. at the age of 34. After another spell in London dealing mostly with Middle Eastern affairs, he attended Lord Curzon at the Lausanne Conference of 1922-23. He won golden opinions from that forbidding statesman. For the next two and a half years he was back in the Foreign Office, where he became increasingly disillusioned with his work and frustrated by lack of responsibilities.

The causes of his discontent were much accentuated by Vita's hatred of the Foreign Office and the diplomatic way of life. By 1925 she had become a dedicated writer. Her output was considerable and her popularity great. Harold, however, had not been idle as a writer. Encouraged by Vita he published in 1921 his first book, a monograph on *Paul Verlaine*, which was favourably received by the critics as biographical writing in the manner of Lytton Strachey, only less derivative and, if possible, more witty. Two further literary biographies on *Tennyson* and *Byron: The Last Journey* enhanced his reputation. He also published the first of two novels, *Sweet Waters*, a largely autobiographical venture based on his vivid memories of Constantinople during the Balkan Wars. Before he left for Persia in the autumn of 1925 he had finished a fourth monograph on *Swainburne*. His little masterpiece, *Some People*, was to be written during the next year.

By the mid 20s Harold Nicolson was already an established author as well as diplomat. His years in London had brought him into touch with innumerable writers and artists (in and outside Bloomsbury) as well as distinguished politicians and men of affairs. Although he was revelling in his social success with the London hostesses he was depressed by the retirement of Sir Eyre Crowe, his boss in the Office, a man whom he venerated and upon whose advice he had come to rely.

Harold was sad and bored with his work. He believed for the first time in his life that he was no longer interested in foreign politics. He felt himself out of the swim; he felt that his minutes were being markedly ignored, whereas those of his colleagues were

The believed that other interests held him more firmly, this situation required thinking over. Yet he suspected that he could not do much better at literature than he was doing at present, were he to give up his profession. If he chucked the office it would only mean losing a little more writing time when what he was doing already, and not necessarily a little better. He decided that he should not abandon his first writing merely because it was out of tune. After all he was practically running the Western Department of the Foreign Office. He would wait and see.

The intimate friend who was now most in his confidence, with whom he discussed his personal problems and whom he was constantly meeting, was Raymond Mortimer. Harold's list of engagements was punctuated by the lunch hours at the Garrick. "On house warming at Raymond's." "On to Eifel Tower where I meet Raymond." "To a play with Raymond and stay with him in Gordon Place." "Raymond comes to Long Barn." Harold had a high regard for his friend's literary judgment. He greatly valued his stylistic criticism because he had the eye of a hux for grammatical solecisms, errors of syntax and shallow passages. Raymond, furthermore, never for a moment said what he did not think out of inertia or a desire to please. He was indistinctly severe, almost to the extent of relishing his friends' mistakes, whether literary or of any other sort, so much so that in 1942 Harold complained to Vita that Raymond:

is like a spential snorting truffles; the truffles in his case being incompetence on the part of others. Nothing ever seems to him to be right and nobody to have any intelligence. Thus he ignores the really wonderful work done in agriculture and merely delights in the story of a farmer who ploughed up a chalcid down. . . . That is why I hate the *New Statesman* (of which Raymond was literary editor). I do not believe that anything creative is ever achieved by an attitude of constant suspicion, pessimism and distrust.

His spirit of contradiction was so acute that it drove him to accuse that he drove him to record praise of

name in inverse ratio to commonly held opinion.

Harold's devotion to Raymond did not prevent his teasing him. And in these early days of their friendship it amused Harold to introduce Raymond to his literary friends—eminent outside Bloomsbury, of whose fringes Raymond was a bright adornment. "It is very good for him," Harold wrote mischievously, "to get out of his little sterile circle of mutual admiration." He introduced him to the American poet, Archibald MacLeish. It was not a success. Harold fancied that Raymond felt, if not out of his depth, then out of his element. "Was it possible that there could be a *bateau* (however irreverent) moderner than himself?" Harold wondered; and fancied Raymond answering, "No, it was not possible, the man was merely a prig; and in any case he would look very foolish, very ponderous, in Gordon Square (Fuss, puss puss)." The sort of things which Harold knew. Bloomsbury affected to despise he, whose horizons were broader than theirs, thoroughly enjoyed.

He went to stay at Blenheim Palace. The King of Portugal and Winston Churchill were guests. It was all very grand and pompous; and it was great fun. There was a fête in the afternoon; a ball in the evening. He went for a walk with Professor Lindemann discussing the future of science. A week later he went to stay at Chartwell with the Churchills. The weather was very hot. It was 80 in the shade. Winston was so delighted with his house, which was only fairly nice, that it was a pleasure to witness his enthusiasm. He considered it a paradise on earth. Only the beautiful sphinx-like Lady Gwendolen (Goonic) Churchill, Harold's friend from Oxford days, the sister of Tata Bertie and now the wife of Winston's younger brother, Jack, was staying—and a red-headed Australian journalist called Bracken. A most self-confident and should think wrong-headed young man. They motored back to London next day. Winston driving. It was a perilous proceeding. They broke down two or three times on the way.

The summer of 1925 was brimful of delights—dinner with Lady Octoline Morre and sitting next to Virginia Woolf, whose *Mrs Dalloway* he was reading in ecstasy lunching with Lady Ribblesdale, and

amongst others, Raymond. In truth Harold was by now in love more than he had ever been since his marriage in 1913. He discussed his emotion with Vita, and then wrote to her in somewhat equivocal terms :—

Please realise that it is not important—but only important enough to emerge from an emotion to an attitude—and as such implying deception on my part if concealed. I feel a great load off my chest. I simply loathe to get into a false position with you.

On the contrary the affair was more important to both parties than Harold's words to Vita suggested. The whole thing worried him. He actually expressed the hope that Raymond might care for him less than he cared for Raymond. He did not want to be led into the same predicament that Vita found herself in during her love affair with Violet Trefusis, a predicament from which he had suffered so much. In other words he did not want to lose his head, and his heart even temporarily, to the extent of causing Vita pain. As though to avoid misunderstanding he warned Raymond against any assumption that he might be attracted to him, and wrote to him in a round about manner :—

It would be too awful if you ever came to resent my ties and my surroundings. You know how much they matter to me and you are a student of wisdom and tact about it all. You see this sort of thing has never happened to me since I ceased to be irresponsible (although, as he has expressed it, 'there have been excursions enough'). I never realized, in my optimistic way, that if it did happen, I should find it difficult to reconcile my desires & my duties. I should like to be away alone with you somewhere for weeks or even. But I can't; and that's the fly in the ointment. But it's a less irksome fly than others might be, and I don't think it need really spoil it all. After all, half a loaf is ever as much better than with one.

It is questionable whether Raymond thought so when he made it clear that in Harold he had found the love of a lifetime.

Harold certainly did allow himself to throw his arms over the windmill. He surprised himself, so he told Vita, in his giving vent to his feelings in this letter to him. Inhibitions made him reminiscent of these feelings: almost angry and contemptuous of himself for harbouring them. He was not by nature very passionate, in spite of his very lustful man. He was a

He managed to keep his emotions under control. Nevertheless Raymond remained "at the back of everything & everything" is "conditioned to its importance." "I am damn it all, what and who are you to have secured so masterful an obsession?"

The obsession, judging by the spate of letters which passed between the two, lasted throughout 1925 and 1926 before settling into a permanent, peaceful and happy affection. And all the while Vita hovered serenely in the background, not disapproving, not minding, but smiling benevolently at the relationship. The relationship between the three of them remained untrifled until the end of their days. As Harold wrote to Vita in 1952:

What a good affectionate friend he is. He is devoted to us. It is a pleasure to have such a friendship in one's life. There is a power of sympathy in Ray, not for me, I mean (since I require no sympathy being a happy 'bumble bee') but for others. He is a most fortunate. The only thing he is unkind about is fraudulence.

Harold was enjoying life so much that he was almost indifferent to the troubles in the world—the antagonism of China towards the communists at Shanghai, the new German objection to the Reparations Pact, and the industrial situation at home which was as black as it could be. What did he care towards the communists? He had written a really splendid passage on craftsmen in *The Land*? How much more interesting was it discussing with Clive, Virginia and Roger the question whether they were snobs. The three of them denied that they were either socially or intellectually snobs. Harold dispensed this bold disavowal. They spoke of it as a "little joke" and then, which Harold again was prone to dispute. He preferred to see in Eliot a tendency to cultural exhibitionism. It was even when *The Sacred Wood* came to the French Ambassador's attention that Harold took a look which he had sent him about inter-allied debts, and Harold refused, he was indifferent to the whole business and its consequences. He was much more concerned by Eliot's Bibo's strange behaviour concerning the Long Bar over the next weekend. Harold had been in a foul mood and tried to make trouble over Doc, who was also staying. Doc Vita was ruffled. They were a ruffled, and went to bed feeling that something was wrong. Harold had not been there. Harold did not believe that Elizabeth was really evil, only a bit insane and miserable.

destrory relationships. But he feared he had behaved in a detached and timorous manner which was not acceptable for a host, and had not been loyal to a husband. The relationship and the marriage was not clear - provoked him on his return to London next Monday morning to write Vera a long letter in which he tried candidly to analyze his feelings about her complexities and the situation at that time:

My darling, I have been rather worried about the Dotie-Elizabeth business, not because I feel you don't understand, but because I am rather ashamed of myself about it all. I really don't like being mean, and I feel about you that I was rather mean.

So lets try and get it all clear:

(A) I have a selfish and distinctive dislike of Dotie. Because: (a) I am a little jealous because of you. I should like you to feel and exploit emotional states which would otherwise be controlled. In my wisest moments I regard her as a beneficial selfish value. (b) I don't like her claustrophobic, shouldn't like it if it were an eagle-winged and strong pinioned desire for escape. But I should respect it. As it is I regard it as a sparrow-flying. (c) Jealousy of her dislike is increased by contempt. (d) I think she's vain and silly. I must hate her when she tries to be intellectual since she can't get her ideas round a simple impersonal concept. This is increased by (e) intellectual snobishness on my part as being identified with our intellectual faculty. (f) Jealousy of her poetry because it is like yours only so much worse. Hence half of my fury when you took me to over her poem (The other half was fury at your treating me).

(B) I am sore and hurt about Gerry and feel it is her fault. I don't mean I really think it her fault, but the Gerry complex tries to get relief by projecting itself on to her.

(C) I am fond of Dotie: (a) Because she is brave and fierce. (b) Because she is pretentious and soft. (c) Because she is fond of you. (d) Because one can talk to her about anything. (e) Because she is rich. (f) I dislike Geoffrey because he talks better than I do. (g) He worries you. (h) He has got a yellow face and sits up late and shabby. (i) Because he is more emotional than I am, and you are impressed by emotion. (j) I am rather a worm with Elizabeth, because

[illegible]

his goodbyes to his father, learnt his goodbyes to the motor and sobbed: "I love life like it is" and when Harold left him, wrote a letter: "I love life like it is" Ferdinand Prince, Oh Daddy I thought about you all last night and I felt what a pity it was for you to go to Persia. And there was the eight-year-old Nigel who adopted a more stalwart attitude.

"I must feel funny to leave Long Barn for two years, you will forget what it looks like. But it will be lovely to come home to find the new garden blooming with lovely flowers, and with the trees all arranged by Mummy who will have roses in her hair."

He lunched with his Uncle Freddy Royan-Hamilton, now an old man of 75, and Aunt Blanche at their home in Surrey. He dined with Mrs. Raymond. He dined with the Colemans and met Walter de la Mare. He dined at Knoles. He dined with Annie. He spent a last weekend at Long Barn in his long autumn sunshine. Raymond dined with them.

On November 3 there was last-minute, frenzied shopping with Vita at the Stores. Then he went back to the office for a long farewell to his colleagues. He said "write them," suggested him his last policy in Paris beyond that of Percy Loraine's. Tyrrell was equally uncommunicative. From the office he went in say goodbye to Aunt Lou Dufferin and to Geoffrey Scott and Gladys Raymond, who wept. The hastily round columnists in a family dinner party at Cadogan Gardens. His perfume now the time. He departed with his car. "were" "were" "were" These duties done at Westminster. A supper party at Christo MacLaren's where "all seemed very barest effort what I have been through" "all seemed to be" "all seemed to be" to arrive a note to Raymond:

It was almost unendurable saying goodbye to you this evening and it is a thing I shall never forget.

Dearest Tracy: You have given me much; I can't believe what all this will cost, in it it is a terrible loss. I am sure you know that there is someone out in the world to whom you are of supreme importance.

Next morning Vita drove him to his blue car, which she called the Kingfisher, to Victoria station, where he registered his heavy luggage. Trieste. After an agonizing farewell Harold tore himself away and boarded the Golden Arrow.

© James Lees-Milne 1980.

The extract is taken from Harold's letter to Mrs. Lees-Milne which will be published in Chatto and Windus November 13 at £15.

# Der Dieb



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## PERSONAL CHOICE



Patrick Allen as Gerald Gardner, QC, leading defence counsel in *The Trial of Lady Chatterley* (BBC 2, 10.25)

● If the Old Bailey trial of Lady Chatterley's Lover had not existed, it would have been invented. Fascinating and historic as how Ludovic Kennedy sums it up in his introduction to the book's reconstruction of the hearing exactly 20 years ago (BBC 2, 10.25). Yes, it was both these things—and one or two besides. It was historic, being the first test case under the Obscene Publications Act of 1959, condemned by many as heralding the dawn of a new age of literary promiscuity. And it was deemed to be a failure because no prosecution evidence was heard against the invisible defendant in the dock. Edwin Punter, the solicitor who had strong reservations about the book's editing of a very high order. And there is a useful, somewhat wry epilogue in which Richard Hoggart, a defence witness at the trial, concedes the point that he and others probably overstated their cases at the time. John Mortimer finds literary merit in the book and Dieter Fensner, who was working for Penguin Books when he went into the witness-box, thinks that some of the pre-Chatterley sentiments that regarded the ears of judge and jury now belong to Pooter's Corner in the critical magazine *Private Eye*.

There is another dramatized reconstruction on BBC Television tonight, Billy Hale's film *SOS Titanic* (BBC 1, 8.05). This is the critical movie that was shown in our cinemas earlier this year. The reason we are seeing it on television so soon after its commercial distribution is that this is the medium for which it was originally intended. The critic in general dislikes it. Short drama, they said, long on extraneous sub-plots. They may be right. I have not seen it but I expect to watch it if only to find out Mr Hale managed the sinking as spectacularly and movingly as Mr Baker did in the Rank Organisation film 22 years ago.

We all have the opportunity tonight (Radio 3, 7.30) to match our verdicts against those of the music critics of *The Times*. The evening and the Daily Telegraph who had strong reservations about the current production of Lucia di Lammermoor at Covent Garden. Katia Ricciarelli has the title role, with José Carreras as her lover. You will be aware that Roy Hudd has practically entered the market in Old Time Music Hall revivalism. He has a gusto that calls for In Gerald Pro's feature *The Hudds and Charles West* (Radio 4, 10.15 pm). Hudd and Charles West sing the songs that encapsulated some of the standards and landmark events of the age. A reminder that in Westbury's account of the friendship between Mrs Gaskell and Charlotte Brontë so faithful to Mrs Gaskell when she came to her biography of Charlotte, is repeated on Radio 4 at 11 pm.

HAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: (STEREO); (BLACK AND WHITE); (REPEAT).

## PERSONAL CHOICE



Al Campbell in the Dennis Potter play *Rain on the Roof* (10.00)

... from Heaven is the name of playwright Dennis Potter's production company, a label that, like the popular song, evokes optimism and the promise of life's renewal. I mean that, on the evidence of the first two plays Mr Potter written for London Weekend Television, the name is only inappropriate. Last week's was about political corruption and the bloody outcome. Tonight's play *Rain on the Roof* (10.00) is about social corruption and its equally bloody outcome. So far, then, a downpour of tarnished pennies, from hell rather than heaven. *Rain on the Roof* will appeal if you see society as a stockpot in which nasty people at their own prices, and the only reason I have included it in Personal Choice is that it contains two remarkable moments: Cheryl Campbell as the flagellant wife and Stewart as the avenging angel/devil in simpleton's dress. Perhaps the untarnished pennies will drop in the third, if Mr Potter's trilogy next Sunday night.

about time I said something nice (indeed something of it) about Shostakovich, the drama series about a crime working for a radio station in the West Country. Of episodes I have seen, one was about a murder that out to be a suicide, which I thought was ingenious but too late, and the other was about a mugger who kept making phone calls to the sleuth: this was gripping stuff, for ever who plays the reporter looked so haunted that I have struck sparks of concern from the steeliest heart, making Shostakovich a disbeliever, uncommunicative and the fellow, and the reporter of creating the flow from which all the other characters within hailing distance. Another Shostakovich story tonight (BBC 1, 9.05).

... ybody's Don't It (BBC 2, 5.50), a new series of eight music consisting of snippets from music movies shot the 1920s and 1930s, satisfies the craving expressed in us about being able to see ourselves as others see us. So tell us a lot about the British way of life, and it is a pleasure that I recall a previous series of 100 films which caught in Time. Two important sporting finals the States Express Challenge Cup for snooker (BBC 2, 10.00) and the Daihatsu Challenge tennis tournament (BBC 1, 8.00).

... while, on radio, there is a reconstruction of the 1979 Prague of the playwright Václav Havel and four other fellow dissidents who put their names to Charter 77. Caste (as Havel), Ian Richardson, Hannah Gordon, Cowen and Robert Powell. The proposition to be in You the Jury (Radio 4, 6.15) is that the national biased towards London. The proposer is Austin Mitchell, opponent Geoffrey Johnson Smith, MP.

## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Daville

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

9.05 am Better Badminton: Defence into attack (r). 9.30 Multi-Coloured Swap Shop: with Noel Edmonds, Ken Dodd, cartoon, prizes and the search for a film. 10.27 pm Weather forecast.

12.30 Grandstand: The line-up is: 12.35 Football: Liverpool (w) vs. Wimbledon (w). 1.00 pm International Motor Sport (Easton Yale Rally Sprint, 1.00 pm; 1.15 pm; 1.30 pm; 1.45 pm; 1.55 pm; 2.00 pm; 2.10 pm; 2.15 pm; 2.20 pm; 2.25 pm; 2.30 pm; 2.35 pm; 2.40 pm; 2.45 pm; 2.50 pm; 2.55 pm; 3.00 pm; 3.05 pm; 3.10 pm; 3.15 pm; 3.20 pm; 3.25 pm; 3.30 pm; 3.35 pm; 3.40 pm; 3.45 pm; 3.50 pm; 3.55 pm; 4.00 pm; 4.05 pm; 4.10 pm; 4.15 pm; 4.20 pm; 4.25 pm; 4.30 pm; 4.35 pm; 4.40 pm; 4.45 pm; 4.50 pm; 4.55 pm; 5.00 pm; 5.05 pm; 5.10 pm; 5.15 pm; 5.20 pm; 5.25 pm; 5.30 pm; 5.35 pm; 5.40 pm; 5.45 pm; 5.50 pm; 5.55 pm; 6.00 pm; 6.05 pm; 6.10 pm; 6.15 pm; 6.20 pm; 6.25 pm; 6.30 pm; 6.35 pm; 6.40 pm; 6.45 pm; 6.50 pm; 6.55 pm; 7.00 pm; 7.05 pm; 7.10 pm; 7.15 pm; 7.20 pm; 7.25 pm; 7.30 pm; 7.35 pm; 7.40 pm; 7.45 pm; 7.50 pm; 7.55 pm; 8.00 pm; 8.05 pm; 8.10 pm; 8.15 pm; 8.20 pm; 8.25 pm; 8.30 pm; 8.35 pm; 8.40 pm; 8.45 pm; 8.50 pm; 8.55 pm; 9.00 pm; 9.05 pm; 9.10 pm; 9.15 pm; 9.20 pm; 9.25 pm; 9.30 pm; 9.35 pm; 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## Sportsview

## Those vital and so elusive goals

Long before the effect of unemployment was so obvious that the national sport could not continue to decline without those responsible taking stock and arriving at definite conclusions. The fact that a seminar of league club chairmen is being held in Solihull tomorrow is recognition of the dangers, but identification has always been easier than implementation.

During the last decade, when football lost 20 per cent of its spectators, the Football League and the Football Association drew conclusions about the future. Few of the more progressive proposals survived annual meetings, and it has to be borne in mind that any proposals put forward last year will face the same hurdles, although at least there is common recognition of a crisis that does not only afflict the small professional clubs.

Although there is good management and loyalty left in football, there is much evidence to support those who blame the game's financial problems and its unsavoury image on high transfer fees, greed amongst players and managers, and the lack of skilful performers. These are serious matters that will not be solved over a long weekend.

The possibility of limiting transfer fees has been discussed for years. The Professional Footballers' Association favour a formula governed by a player's age, ability and standing in his club, but the Football League Secretaries, Managers and Coaches Association believe the transfer system is "vital to the future of football".

The association in their document "Soccer—the Fight for Survival" say that the disappearance of transfer fees would "very quickly mean the end of the Football League as we know it today". They say that the selling of players by small clubs is a lifeline but accept that the future of the system should be reviewed.

For the moment, the economic climate and lack of outstanding players weigh against the argument that slight alterations to the rules and the removal of professionalism will revive attendances and lift the financial threats. This is a time of optimism on which the league survived for so long, with the less profitable clubs believing that sooner or later they would achieve success or be saved by the sale of some new "star".

Today clubs require something more than hope. Altering the points system to encourage goalkeeping, possibly with three points for a win, is one of the more drastic suggestions that will win considerable support. Of course the public want to see more goals and less defensive football and a trial period is desirable, but this should not confuse the worry, in essential issue which is the lack of basic skills that restricts international progress. England's failure at this level has certainly not helped club attendances.

Other small alterations could improve the game's appeal. Referees should have a consistent approach to petty irritations. Players should not be allowed to encourage the referee's time wasting should not be tolerated, and dissent punished with instant dismissal. There is a proposal to abandon the yellow and red cards. Better to use the red on more occasions, but consistently. Any proposals for basic alterations to the rules of play should be treated with great care, especially if they involve falling out of line with the international body (FIFA).

If the American 25-yard offside rule has nothing to offer the British game, the promoters from that country may prefer some useful confusions, restriction and spectator comfort. No doubt Jimmy Hill, who has interests on both sides of the Atlantic and has shown progressive ideas at Coventry City, would make stimulating remarks, but I hope he does not sway opinion against demands to reduce the amount of televised football.

If there is too much football, there is certainly too much television for too little financial return. The unsigned contract between the Football League and the television companies should be amended to restrict the amount of televised football at least until the problems of sponsorship names on shirts is resolved.

Sponsorship and television are closely linked, especially for the leading clubs who have found themselves unable to offer sponsors full value for money because television does not allow names on shirts. Obviously sponsors have taken an interest in the policy of the television companies. For the time being, if ever again, clubs cannot anticipate the return of the missing millions; so money from other sources is essential.

Those who would have the fixtures list reduced will find strong opposition. It is a fact of football life that when a club loses in a cup competition "friendly" matches are soon arranged to fill vacant dates and alleviate some of the financial losses. A reduction in the number of competitive matches would not automatically reduce the number of games played. Only by increased sponsorship, with all of the "soul-searching" involved, will clubs be able to afford to play fewer games.

Norman Fox  
Football correspondent

## Putting the Tories on the defensive

Fred Emery

Just when the Conservatives are relishing settling into their Commons benches on Monday to enjoy the finale of the Labour leadership battle, they have been rudely reawakened to the realities of governing. Whoever leaked the defence cuts memo has a cruelly deft sense of timing; they have given the Tory right wing a weekend to get up steam in defence of defence before storming back for the resumption.

If the Government, to get interest rates down, is going to cut, cut and cut again into public expenditure—ministerial meetings are now about little else—then every other spending department has to give an enormous amount of defence is exempted.

The Treasury's view is that it cannot be exempted; so is Mr Thatcher's, for all her boldness on defence. But the Tories fought the election on an increase in defence. On the Tory rig, there is already talk of "betrayal" in not meeting the accepted commitment to NATO to increase defence spending in real terms.

Shortly, it could be someone rather than something who has to give. It is sometimes overlooked that the Cabinet came close to its first resignation on this issue last winter when Mr Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Defence, let it be known to colleagues that he was prepared to go that far. In the event it was not necessary. But now that the crisis has reappeared who can say? If he should again prevail and fend off those who in the Treasury would increase defence spending in real terms.

Mr John Biffen, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, and man in charge of the axe, would in that event have to chop the money out of other departments. And a mighty row is already under way. Not, let it be hastily said,

that Mr Biffen is showing any signs of resigning; always, for all he has resented in the past to note that it is the dissenters among his colleagues who choose not to avail themselves of that option, which by implication is always open to them.

The reminder, as the Commons reassembles, is that there is plenty more here than his own enthralls for Opposition to get their teeth into—not to speak of the black economic situation. And it happens that there is an excellent opportunity for bravura despatch box performances by both the main contenders, Mr Denis Healey and Mr Michael Foot before the party's MPs have to make their choice.

Mr Foot will be deputizing against the Prime Minister at Question Time. And Mr Denis Healey, usually a far more brutal coherent and focused attacker than Mr Foot, will open the Opposition's debate on Wednesday, which criticizes the Government over the economy and rising unemployment. With Mr Foot winking up, this will be the set piece occasion for comparison of the Parliamentary talents—while MPs and opinion in the country rightly wince.

By that time, however, the battle could well be over even though we will have to wait for the result of the first ballot until November 4. MPs get their papers next week and many are expected to make up their minds before going home next weekend.

Parliamentary performance will affect the choice only if one of the two made a terrible hash of it, which is unlikely. Assessing what it is that makes MPs minds up is exceedingly complicated, to say the least.

MPs get to know each other at fairly close quarters; only 39 Labour MPs

are new entrants since last year's election. But against the familiarity is the contempt that comes of ministerial experience. Mr Healey's five years at the Treasury out of the past six and a half were not the best time or place to make friends; even if he had been minded to do so.

In addition to personal preference ideology has a part to play, but only a part. What perhaps is most important for this very peculiar electorate is that they themselves are, mostly, aware of what it takes to get elected, and sensitive to what goes with getting elected.

So most, not all, would want to feel they are backing the winner, at least on second ballot; second, they might be happier to have campaign for them in their constituency in a very tight election; and third, and not dishonourable, what would be the chances of getting jobs, come victory—not Cabinet posts but among the plethora of posts in junior ministries and the whips' offices.

With MPs still at home these past weeks it has been difficult even for the contenders to check out their strength. "It is difficult to look a man in the eye on the phone," one said. It has been difficult too, to check how determined the PLP is to defend the PLP's prerogatives to elect the leader.

This past week they have seen not only the party's National Executive Committee attempting to reintroduce special conference, but the summons by the Bennite Labour Coordinating Committee to "insist" that MPs bring their ballot papers to their constituency party management committees.

One thing is often forgotten in all the assumption that an electoral college is

inevitable. It is that the PLP is still on record opposing it; and it ripples with many MPs that Mr Michael Foot "sold the pass" in first accepting the method of election cannot now be reversed. But nothing requires acceptance of an electoral college on a crude curve-up ratio of 40:30:30 for MPs, unions, constituencies, and the like.

The Labour right and some unions are fighting for a one-member one-vote system. Another position, close to Mr Healey, is to balance the union block votes with the really blockholder votes which MPs represent. For instance, Mr Moss Evans's 12,500 votes look quite so impressive alongside the 11,506,741 votes cast for Labour MPs in the last election.

Assuming MPs are that interested in the hand they are dealt at conference, Mr Healey and perhaps Mr Peter Shore, are the only two candidates actively committed to fighting off the unthinkable rush into an electoral college. As the critical week opens, Mr Healey remains the front runner. All the polls of voters make him the overwhelming preference. But it is not they, only the MPs who vote. And here, although Mr Healey leads in samples of MPs, he is still denied the outright majority needed.

It may have to go to a tantalizing second ballot, unless Mr Healey can impose himself this week as the only credible leader to unseat the Conservatives.

## Michelangelo's genius, spiders and all

You could say that Michelangelo's frescoes on the ceiling and walls of the Sistine Chapel are the best-known paintings of western art. From God leaning forward with the touch of life for Adam languid on his barren hill, to our voluptuous first mother reaching up for the apple, and on to the inexpressible retreats for microbes prepared by Michelangelo in Moses's beard, the images have profoundly influenced the way we look at the world, art, religion and, especially, man.

The paradox is that we seldom get to look at the originals. For one thing, one has to make the hideous voyage to Rome. For another, one is liable to be trampled as insensible as Adam before his Creation by devout tourists in the Sistine Chapel. And for another, squinting up at the majestic sweep of paintings, one is likely to give one a crick in the neck, a contact lens at the back of the eye, and a dim and distracted view.

The frescoes of the ancestors of Christ on the lunette and the lower part of the Last Judgement are invisible from the ground for anyone but an artistic giraffe.

## Getting the best view

A prodigious new publication is about to give those rich enough to afford it the best view of the paintings since Michelangelo lay on his back on the scaffolding just below the vaulted ceiling, fast and furiously in his own act of creation. It consists of two tomes of 400 colour plates of the Vatican frescoes, 100 of them of the same size as their originals. They show in a range of sizes and the colours as they were, rather than the faded and discoloured versions that have been painted over the years.

Early in October, 1949, the American *Saturday Review* of Literature carried an advertisement for a London bookshop, specializing in out-of-print books. It was written by a penniless young woman in New York who, loving books and learning to write plays, sent them a list of her "most pressing problems".

With this began a 20-year literary affair between Helene Hanft and Marks & Co and a process of pleasurable self-education that was acutely and touchingly captured in a book that has for title the shop's address: 84 Charing Cross Road.

The book was composed entirely of letters and mapped a growing pattern of friendship as Helene Hanft forced the stiff British replies into the ordinary responses of ordinary people and later into the confidences of intimates. It had a remarkable effect on those who read it. Its publication brought her an enormous mailbag which, 10 years later, has scarcely diminished, and many new acquaintances.

Edward Gregson is a young British composer whose works for brass band in particular are internationally known but who, for the past four years, has concentrated on orchestral compositions. Recently, however, he returned to the brass band scene for what he describes as "one of the most difficult challenges that I have had to face".

The piece he has written, *Festive Music for Brass Band*, is a test piece with a difference. It will be performed, not as his works usually are by a championship band, but by a group of actors and actresses whose musical ability, at any rate so far, has not been their chief accomplishment.

His task has been to write a piece of music which is difficult yet is not too demanding of the inexperienced players. The test piece was commissioned for a new play by Peter Buckman

Chapel, and the conversion of St Paul and the martyrdom of St Peter in the Pauline Chapel, which is not open to the public. It has been done, naturally in these printing days, by the Japanese. They spent six months and 250,000 dollars taking the pictures from scaffolding. They invented a remotely controlled magnetic release system to avoid the slightest tremor from a human photographer. Then they rebuilt the scaffolding so that printing specialists from Japan could check the colour reproduction against the originals.

The result is the most comprehensive and accurate record of the fast fading frescoes ever made. It shows the work of Michelangelo's brush, the traces of his palette, past restorations, cracks, varnishing, and alterations (the jock-straps on the nudes in the Last Judgement put there by Daniele da Volterra for prudish Paul IV) far more clearly than can be seen from the ground. Art critics are already rewriting their interpretation of the frescoes from this new Michelangelo's eye view.

The master photographer was Takashi Okamura, who has specialized in photographing paintings, particularly in Italy, for 30 years. He is an expert climber. He needs to be in his mystery. His diary of his work in the Sistine Chapel is a voyage of discovery in itself.

"We begin with the face of Eve, and during the photographing I noticed something strange. There is a pink, delicate area in Eve's face. At some time (probably after the turn of this century), in order to preserve the frescoes, transparent varnish was applied over the entire fresco. This delta area is where the varnish was not applied and therefore the colour of this area is close to the original, whereas the rest was made darker because of later changes in the varnish."

later changes in the varnish."

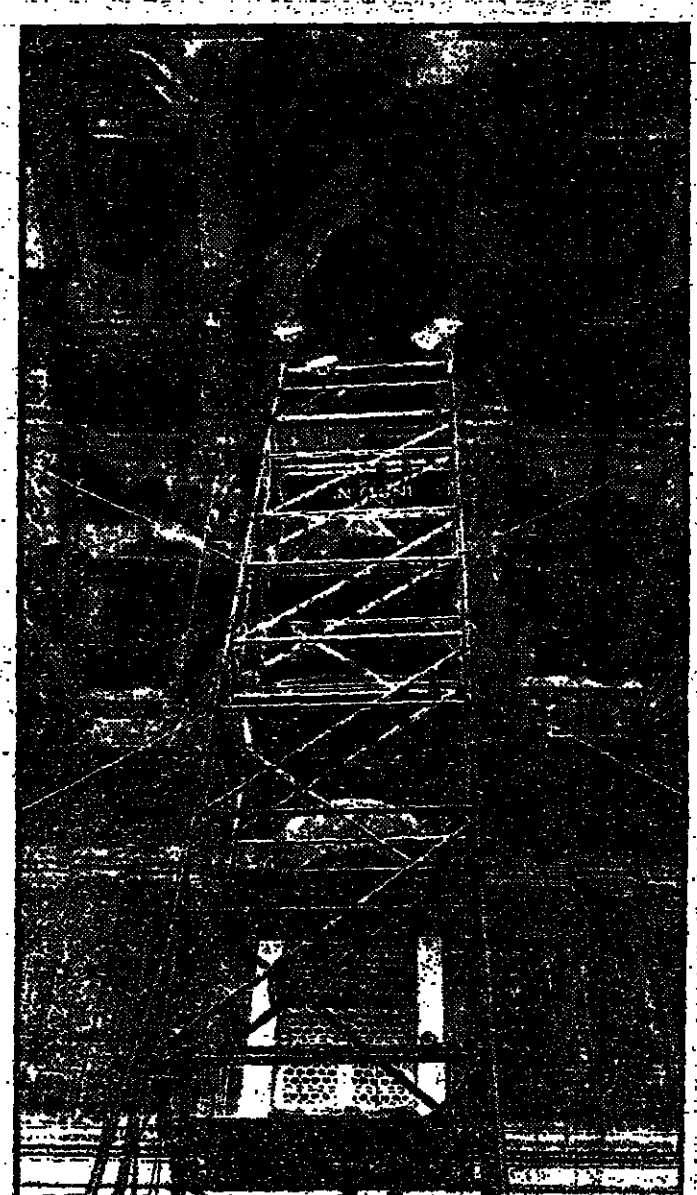
"I can reach the wall, just by stretching my hand. 470 years ago Michelangelo was at this very position. Being as close as 50 centimetres to the ceiling, I can no longer see the Genesis on the ceiling with my eyes. Only less than one square metre of mural, which I am going to photograph, exists over my head. Now that I am this close, I can see even the small traces of Michelangelo's brush, the trace of his brush at the time of the repair, any small chips and peeling. I can even see thin spider's webs. Even being in this uncomfortable position, I wondered what the spiders here lived on such a foolish thought came up."

## Only one review copy

These books are thumping big (21 inches by 17), expensive, produced, and expensive: £1,850 for the set. They include a third volume of commentary by Professor André Chastel, translated woodenly into English. The Times Books are publishing a limited edition of 100 of them for the United Kingdom and Ireland on Monday. I cover one. But to avoid insinuations of interest, I declare that only one review copy has been given: to the Pope.

Those who value such reproductions of great art more than a nasty little new car should order their copies from Times Books, 16 Golden Square, London W1. If you tried to carry them, your arms would be stretched to your ankles before you were out of Soho. They show the supreme sweep of some of the greatest painting yet done in this world.

Philip Howard



The photographer Takashi Okamura at work in the Sistine Chapel

## A long way on from Charing Cross Road

particularly when she came to London for the first time soon after it appeared here.

There was nothing the readers of this small, humorous collection of letters would not do for the woman who had sparked off the correspondence. They drove her everywhere, where they invited her to dinner, they took her to see Oxford and Cambridge, they fed her on lobster and strawberries and cream.

One fan was a man who worked at Heathrow; he saw her on and off her aircraft; another was a researcher at the television company that filmed *84 Charing Cross Road*; a third was a book collector. Helene Hanft lent the programme restored, the leather heated and stretched, the gold stamp cleaned, by the Queen's bookbinder. A third was Norman, the wife of Frank Doel, the man who found her books for her at Marks & Co and whose

death marks the end of the letters.

In the USA both *84 Charing Cross Road* and its sequel, *The Duchess of Bloomsbury Street*, are still in print. Before Helene Hanft's recent arrival in London for the British publication of another book, *Underfoot in Show Business*, fans were already telephoning the BBC for whom she does a five-minute monthly letter to the *Woman's Hour* to find the date of her arrival. Nora died this summer, and Joyce Grenfell, another friend from her first visit, is also dead, but the others, as well as a whole new generation of people, continue to sense that there is something special in the relationship. This literary domesticity seems to reduce the world in size.

Helene Hanft, now in her late sixties, is a thin, first-looking woman with a great deal of energy and self-mockery and a touch of the blarney that made the letters so seductive. She has given some thought to the nature of their vast success, concluding finally that she owes it to the anarchistic world they conjure up, one peopled by "decent, ordinary, generous" figures, one in which bookshelves believe books are about service rather than goods, and quite unlike our age, "when the best novelists are hung up on sex and violence".

Many of the people who have written to her also share her almost unquestioning love for a certain image of historical England, what she calls the "bookish enthusiasm" of the English. Canadians, other Americans who write to tell her that they feel she has made the pilgrimage for them. Over the years of increasing devotion, she has pruned the staff in the London bookshop—she sent them food

parcels in the post-war rationing, they searched out rare volumes they felt she would like—Helene Hanft bought between 200 and 300 second-hand books. The fact that these were all of Plato, Boswell and Milton and the like, she says, is a lopsided view of her otherwise catholic literary tastes. It wasn't that I did not buy contemporary writers? But why bother an English second-hand dealer for them?

She has kept all but a few in a bookshelf that covers an entire wall of the flat she moved into six years after the correspondence began, but she is not an indiscriminate hoarder of books and each September turns out those that have fallen from favour. If she has not moved house in these last years it is because the life of her bookshelves and involves her—the mothers with prams talking on the steps in the morning, those with dogs at

night—and provides her with a cosy, safe, and seductive world. She still collects, but with less pleasure, from the one second-hand bookshop she likes in New York, called Strand, Marks & Co, long since closed, has not been replaced. In any case, the cost of second-hand books has risen drastically since \$5.30 bought her a *Non-Such Press* edition of Hazlitt's essays, and a *Virginian Picaresque*, in 1949, and her income has not kept up.

*Underfoot in Show Business* is the first published in America in 1961, the story of her own life, first as an almost successful Broadway playwright, later as a screenwriter and, finally, as a successful television scriptwriter, finally washed up without work in 1960 when television moved to Hollywood. Helene Hanft does not find the writing easy, and she does the work of 10 years, in no

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## Letter from Chateau Margaux

## £10 a day and a great vintage too

We ploughed through fields and splattered a good deal across the land, but we were fed and quartered in style, although grand.

All the good things around us were undoubtedly sent from heaven above, but in the mud of the Medoc vineyards this week-end there was no getting away from the fact that they had come down to a particularly wet and clinging earth.

The vendange, that is the grape harvest, started very late this year because the summer rains had stopped the fruit from turning. But the grapes are purple colour it needs to be if it is to produce the juice for a really great wine.

It was only this past weekend that the grapes were ready and despite the wind and the occasional scudding rain clouds the vendange could start work. With precious little time left before winter the pickers were busy everywhere, their bright orange and yellow slickers bobbing and sawing like boats on the green sea of vines.

A carefully picked bunch of journalists was invited down to the Bordeaux region for the start of the vendange to discover the joys of carefully picking the bunches of grapes which will one day become a vintage wine with a pedigree going back through the centuries.

The vineyards chosen for the picking lessons were those surrounding the 1802 Palladium masterpiece, Chateau Margaux, which have, since 1855, been providing the grape juice which annually is turned into that wonder of oenology, a premier Grand Cru.

Only Mouton-Rothschild has succeeded in gatecrashing the exclusive club of the four Grand Crus since they were first classified in 1855 and there is as much chance as all that any other vintage will be allowed to go so. To be allowed to pick the grapes for such a wine is a bit like being asked to cut the cloth for a Savile Row suit or to diamond for a Cartier necklace. There is a permanent worry that one slip will ruin both the finished article and a reputation that has taken generations to create.

No room for doubt was left to pick for the press the harvest on the chateau this year was marked by the presence of Ernest Hemingway's fashion model granddaughters. So fond was he of the produce of its vineyards that he insisted on having a "Margaux" in their honour.

So Margaux came to what she proudly and loudly called "my very own chateau" to pose in bright red leather trousers and a matching jacket. The picked-up grapes were not the vintage of 1980, more important to their future than a glimpse of a leggy blonde.

The experts say it is too early to tell accurately, but they guess that the vintage of 1980 will be a very good one. The unlikely Cabernet Sauvignon grapes are small and tightly packed together on the bunch. It is necessary to pierce inside to make certain that there is nothing mouldy inside. This year was wet, but there has been little sunshine, and the grapes have been prone to start going mouldy at roughly the same time. Now that the vendange has started, therefore, it has to proceed so that as many good grapes as possible can be gathered as possible.

It takes a long time to inspect each grape on a bunch. Long

enough for the boots to sink into the sticky clay so deeply it is difficult to pull them out and move on to the next bunch. The 150 Chateau Margaux grape pickers, behind their work carts, to bring home the harvest before the rot sets in.

They receive about £10.10 a day in wages, a good, wine-washed meal at lunchtime and two bottles of lunch a day as well as a bus ride to and from their home village. It is hard, very seasonal work and very tiring. A keen hop picker of old would feel at home.

The careful picking is backed by two teams of more expert rot spotters—one on the tractor and one on the chateau itself who gives the grapes a final looking over before they are baled and swung into the press which spits out the juice. The juice is not used for pressing any more. Although everyone in the chateau wears rubber boots, the juice is so purple the juice of vintages goes by.

The costs of producing a top quality wine are increasingly enormous. Apart from the labour needed for the slow and skilful picking, Chateau Margaux has nearly 50 people on the permanent pay roll, including a cooper in charge of seeing together the 1,000 or more brand new barrels needed every year for the wine to store the vintage. Each barrel now costs £100, so this year they alone will cost £200,000.

With overheads of this scale a great wine needs a great salesmanship and a great marketing. The temptation to increase quantities and decrease qualities is obvious and can best be resisted by someone financially unimpaired by the need to make ends meet. Chateau Margaux has such a proprietor in M. André Montreuil, the Greek-born owner of Felix Poin, one of France's largest chains of grocery stores. It is the fourth year since he bought the chateau and he poured in money on a breath-taking scale and so it is said saved a great name from mediocrity.

Apart from asking the press to pick for the press the harvest on the chateau this year was marked by the presence of Ernest Hemingway's fashion model granddaughters. So fond was he of the produce of its vineyards that he insisted on having a "Margaux" in their honour.

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It takes a long time to inspect each grape on a bunch. Long

Ian Murray

## The happy band of actors

which opens at the Greenwich Theatre on November 6, with high hopes of a transfer to the West End. Later, *All Together Now* is a realistic portrayal of the activities involving a once famous band that is rescued from decline by a new conductor who improves its standards but whose methods treat splits and dramas in the bandroom.

Casting of the play proved difficult, and at times hilarious, finding 16 actors who could give a credible performance on a brass instrument as well as act. They have to play their instruments deliberately badly

and gradually improve throughout the play. At auditions some actors obviously thought that singing should be the main part of the musical test and turned up without an instrument. David Honeybell, the musical supervisor, soon found a spare instrument on which to test them. Some quickly proved they had never played an instrument in their lives.

When Mr Honeybell felt the actors had reached a sufficiently good standard of performance, he invited Edward Gregson to a rehearsal. After hearing a piece played for the first time, Gregson called out: "Bravo. By the opening night it should be fantastic."

All agree that rehearsals are proving to be great fun. Perhaps there is scope for an actor to write another play about the problems of staging a play about brass bands.

Cyril Bainbridge

## The great crusade gets under way

ism which dogged the CND and the Committee of 100 in its early days. It has attracted a broad alliance of Christians, humanists, pacifists, intellectuals, left-wingers and trade unionists, some committed to unilateralism and others to multilateralism.

Last weekend nearly 1,000 people attended a CND rally in Bristol, addressed by Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Mr Bruce Pann, editor of the *New Statesman*, and Miss Julie Christie, the actress. A similar number packed the Free Trade Hall in Manchester for a debate on nuclear weapons organized by a couple who spent their holiday convincing on the event.

In the sources of the support

and the moral outrage that lies at the heart of the anti-nuclear disarmament movement resembles the great national crusades against the Bulgarian atrocities which drew W. E. Gladstone back into political life just over 100 years ago.

The man who has done more than anyone else to encourage national conscience over nuclear weapons is E. P. Thompson, the distinguished academic historian and author of *The Making of the English Working Class*. Like Gladstone who felt himself called away from writing about the Christian doctrine of atonement punishment to lead the agitation over the Bulgarian atrocities, Thompson abandoned his scholar's garb

and the book that he is writing on William Blake last autumn to devote himself to the anti-nuclear cause.

Mr Thompson is flying back from the United States, where he is on a lecture tour, to take part in tomorrow's rally and to launch his new book, *Prison and Survival*, which is published by Penguin on Thursday. It was written as a rejoinder to the Government's pamphlet *Prison and Survival* and argues that a so-called "limited" war, once allowed to start, is likely to lead to the total destruction of much of Britain and Western Europe.

Ian Bradley





New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## DEFENCE ON THE OFFENSIVE

Government anger over the unveiling of more confidential Whitehall documents has so far partially obscured a very genuine concern about what the documents contain. The balance will be redressed next week, if not before, when Defence and Treasury ministers can expect a hostile reaction from many of their own party's MPs.

This presumably is what was intended by whoever released the material to the Press Association. We do not know whether this particular mole wears uniform, but the services have been adroit users of the information underground throughout this century. Barred from using the normal channels of communication by their apolitical status, they have found the "leak" an effective weapon in conducting psychological warfare against a succession of unsympathetic governments.

Not that Mrs Thatcher's administration could be called unsympathetic. Indeed the Conservatives were welcomed back to power last year with relief bordering upon euphoria in Horse Guards Avenue. Promises to upgrade defence in the order of national priorities were followed by a generous pay rise for the Armed Forces and a pledge to raise defence spending by an annual 3 per cent in real terms until 1986, as requested rather optimistically by Nato of all members.

A carefully drafted caveat was introduced into last April's Defence White Paper, however. The Government, it said, would

not consider it a failure of policy if it modified its spending plans in either direction from year to year. At present it looks as if the only direction in which such spending plans are likely to be modified is downwards.

Ministers now refer more cautiously to raising the Budget by an amount in the region of 3 per cent. Last year it went up by 2 per cent. This year there is general speculation that the 3 per cent will have become 1 per cent by next April, although the Ministry argues that it cannot make any predictions while inflation, fuel costs and the foreign exchange rate remain unknown factors.

In fact the Government's plans are beginning to look rather a little more substantial orders for new tanks, Trident missiles and some rather nebulous ideas for defending Western interests outside Europe. On the other hand the chiefs of staff are worried, as they were under the previous government, by the effects of the cash squeeze on their ability to pay for these. The side-effects of the recession are playing havoc with cash limits, leading to the present three-month moratorium on new contracts. Fuel cuts have been ordered, as they have in other Nato countries, and now—revealed by the PA documents—the Treasury is demanding still more stringent economies next year.

Arguments between the Treasury and spending departments are annual and almost inevitable. In

comparison, with other parts of Whitehall, the Ministry of Defence has so far escaped lightly in the drive to curb public spending. It is the familiar gap between promise and fulfilment that now threatens to make the Government unpopular with the services and some of its more defence-minded backbenchers.

It is difficult to argue that defence should be sacrosanct. As one of Whitehall's big spenders, Mr Pym's department must expect to bear a share of the economies. But the Government will come under more justifiable criticism if it fails by a significant margin to meet a commitment to Nato, first given—and fulfilled by its predecessor, then confirmed and extended to the present year, in spite of the caveat that was later introduced. The uncertainty over defence spending will also raise more the question of the Trident missile. The services did not meet with much enthusiasm the Government's determination to spend £550,000 on a new strategic deterrent because they foresaw that their conventional weapons programmes might be adversely affected. In spite of Government reassurances, it looks as if these fears could be justified. Already the RAF's Jaguar replacement programme is having to be redrawn—although this is not a straight case of cause and effect.

A mole can make a mess of the garden. But this one has uncovered what seems to be a quite serious alarm among the chiefs of staff. It is right that that should be made known because important issues of national defence are involved.

## ON THE RACK OF THE EXCHANGE RATE

Sterling continued its upward surge this week. In terms of the real economy it is now unequivocally too high. There was and is much strength in the argument that the central problems of the British economy can no longer be counteracted by continued devaluation of sterling. A strong pound faces British business squarely with the true nature of low productivity. It also helps in the fight against inflation by holding back the price of imports. With the recession in its present degree, however, it cannot be sensible for sterling to continue to move upwards.

When ICI, the country's leading manufacturing company, has to report as it did this week that it is now trading at a loss and puts the effect of the high sterling exchange rate as one of the main causes, it is clear that the British economy is upon the rack. And, while it is one thing to argue in favour of sterling holding its value against other currencies, its continued appre-

ciation against them is quite another matter.

For, with the exchange rate as with other elements, it is the uncertainty of not knowing from day to day the basis on which business decisions should be made, particularly in the area of imports and exports, that has knocked the confidence out of the system. Since the trauma of the 1974 oil price rise and the explosion of price levels that has followed in the rest of the decade, the general increase in the level of uncertainty has been perhaps the major reason for the drop in economic growth rates and investment in new plant and machinery.

The direct cause of the high sterling exchange rate is the level of interest rates that has been deliberately engineered by the Government in order to validate its monetary policy. The case for a reduction in the Minimum Lending Rate becomes stronger day by day. Every measure of what is happening

in the real economy would lead to the conclusion that a reduction was now required.

The Government will naturally be concerned at the possible effect of an MLR reduction on its control of the money supply. The actual operation of monetary policy has got itself into a paradoxical position that a drop in MLR could lead to further substantial sales of government debt, which in turn would reduce the amount of money left in the banking system and so tend once again to push up the level of market interest rates.

The authorities must extricate themselves from this tactical problem and then begin the steady retreat from the present record levels of interest rates. By the end of next week they should have a preliminary indication of what next month's figures for the growth in money supply are going to show. It must be hoped that the decision will not be long delayed thereafter.

## MOSCOW'S AFGHAN PUPPET

Mr Babrak Karmal, the President of Afghanistan, has been in the Soviet Union for what should by rights have been a thoroughly uncomfortable visit, both for himself and his hosts. The Soviet takeover of Afghanistan has proved to be a far more difficult and costly operation than can be expected, and there is no sign that the situation is going to become any easier. If the Soviet authorities ever had any illusion that the Afghans would coalesce in the arrival of their troops they have now been thoroughly disabused. The Soviet troops can impose their control in any given area when they concentrate their efforts on it, but once they move out resistance starts up again. Divided though they are, and without the most modern weapons, the Afghans still remain a force to be reckoned with; and the Soviet Union appears starkly before the world as a great power trying to stifle a small and valiant neighbour by sheer force of arms.

Yet the message from Moscow, that nothing will change, Mr Karmal, a discredited puppet if ever there was one, who has

totally failed to attract a significant degree of support for his regime, was given red-carpet treatment wherever he went in the Soviet Union. In his speech at a state banquet, President Brezhnev maintained the fiction that Afghan resistance was simply the product of foreign intervention, and promised continued Soviet support. This support will continue, according to a joint statement published subsequently, until all opposition to the regime in Kabul has been crushed. Withdrawal of Soviet troops will not even be considered until there is a political settlement on terms already proposed by Kabul last May—among them, de facto recognition by Iran and Pakistan of the Karmal regime, and an end to all support for the Afghan insurgents.

The Soviet Union is paying a price for its Afghan policy, and must continue to be made to do so. None of the actions taken so far, such as the economic boycott, will by itself force the Soviet authorities to pull back from Afghanistan. Ultimately, only the Afghans themselves can do that, by making the continued

occupation of the country impossible. But pressure must continue to be brought to bear on the Soviet Union, both for the sake of Afghanistan itself and in order to deter the Kremlin from embarking on comparable invasions in the future. This can be done at the forthcoming conference in Madrid on European security, and at this autumn's session of the United Nations General Assembly, where the Islamic countries are preparing a resolution which will call for the immediate withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan.

The Soviet Union cannot excuse its occupation by referring defensively to tension and uncertainty in its southern border, sensitive though it may have been about that. Such nervousness does not justify the takeover of a neighbouring country of no aggressive intent, and the wholesale repression which is now under way, in support of a conspicuously unpopular regime. It is not something that the Kremlin will easily accept, but it has to be repeated over and over again.

## Canadian legislation

from the Reverend Professor J. Hankey

I, May I express through your columns the hope of many Canadians that, in sending home the Act which forms our institution, the British Government will not substantially amend it. For, in refusing Mr Trudeau's quest to add to it a Charter of rights, only a formal judgment could be made. In most respects, Canada has notched an independent state over 100 years. Mere defence of the political independence of the nation should guarantee that no change in its fundamental character made at the request of only one of its 11 governments. Many of the provinces had a well established free political life within Empire long before Canada was created and entered the federation the pressure of the Imperial Government. But it is not only this that the British Government is regarded as "weighty" provincial opposition in the current plan.

Mr Trudeau's scheme is tossed by the other major party in Parliament and his Liberal Government has no significant representation in four of the 10 provinces. These four make up one whole nation—the one advancing in the provinces now find cause in Quebec in speaking of separatism. If the British Parliament, the British North America Act a

Charter of Rights, entrenched and enforceable by the courts, Mr Trudeau will have used the desire to have Britain alter the Canadian Constitution in an American direction. This is an alteration for which he cannot secure in Canada, except his own assenting formula would require.

Surely it is not the task of Britain to do the work of the American Revolution in Canada against such opposition, and just when the defects of the Constitution of the United States are becoming apparent in the irresolvable conflict of executive, legislature and judiciary. It is the duty of the Government to help complete Canadian independence, but it remains its responsibility to be certain that any constitutional change it would make has the united support of the Canadian people.

Yours truly,  
W. J. HANKEY,  
Pusey House,  
Oxford.  
October 19.

simple respect for the unit of currency. A glut of anything induces disrespect, even contempt for that commodity, and the huge amount of money we have to carry about or prepared to sign for has resulted in just that attitude.

It is reflected in the price differences in price for identical items, particularly those costing less than a pound, and nobody cares if it is simply boring to turn around. Such apathy in turn develops greater greed on the part of the seller; hence the plunder economy that now operates in London and the South-East. Who can respect a bit of paper that won't even buy a decent glass of Scotch? Before the war anyone earning £32 a year was hard up and very few were significant. Now someone earning £3,000 a year is also hard up but the quantities and the consumption become hilarious. Initially, the New Pound would be regarded as just another high denomination note (it is relative after all) but with increasing circulation a proper concern for the figure 1 would return and contribute to the economic sense that in the end has got to prevail.

Yours faithfully,  
P. M. J. FINUCANE,  
Griffins,  
Horsley Lodge Lane,  
Salisbury,  
Wiltshire.  
October 22.

## A future for 'The Times'

From Mr George Malcolm Thomson  
Sir, Apart from yourself and a handful of others like you, the paramount interest in the survival and character of *The Times* is that of its readers.

Yet, from the beginning of this long, tragic dispute, the reader has been largely ignored from the outset. I suppose, that they have no representative organization.

I propose that a body called The Friends of *The Times* be set up forthwith, under responsible leadership to take part in the discussions which are now inevitable and to ensure, as far as possible, that *The Times* is established on a sound, commercial basis, taking full advantage of the most up-to-date technology.

I am, Sir, yours sincerely,  
GEORGE MALCOLM THOMSON,  
5 The Mount Square, NW3.  
October 23.

From Mr John Clough  
Sir, The title of the Editor's article, *The Times* is going to fight for herself. In today's issue, it says that you regard your great newspaper as feminine: as a consistent reader for nearly seventy years, I have never detected any femininity in your columns.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN CLOUGH,  
3 The Mall,  
East Sheen, SW14.  
October 23.

From Mr D. R. B. Allen  
Sir, Please may we view *The Times* as a British institution embodying what have become British, rather than merely English, values. Your many Celtic readers can then wholeheartedly affirm that *The Times* must not cease.

Yours faithfully,  
D. R. B. ALLEN,  
85 Purses Cross Road, SW6.  
October 23.

## A bridge too low?

From Mr Peter Mason  
Sir, Mr Seymour (October 17) rightly criticises the "Channel Bridge" as a solution combining a series of bridges, islands and tunnels, for a Channel crossing as being such a hazard to shipping that the maritime interests would veto it. In its place he suggests the high-level, long-span suspension bridge stretching across the Channel in spans 2km long.

But isn't this just as impracticable, at least for a considerable time to come? Unfortunately, we cannot yet build suspension bridges by remote-controlled mechanisms as we can (or partly can) motor cars. A suspension bridge requires men working on the tops of the towers "spinning" the thousands of wires needed to make the huge cables from which the bridge deck is suspended. For a span of 2km (nearly a mile) and a tower height of 200m, the need to be higher than the New Tower!

In human working at this height, in a mid-Channel environment with all its weather pattern of wind and storm, really feasible? And of course work has to be carried on not only at the towers, where there would be an escape route down the tower, but out in mid-span, where it would be difficult to arrange a three-quarter-mile bocking cableway in a sudden squall or storm.

Such necessary man operations could only be done (if at all) by confining them to suitable weather windows. And can we predict these windows sufficiently accurately for mid-Channel work? The whole construction programme capable of being planned on any economic assessment of the ultimate cost of the project? I doubt it.

If it is agreed that a Channel link is now desirable, then I suggest that the current tunnel proposal is the sensible one to pursue. The knowledge and prosecution methods are tried and proven. Costs can be defined more easily because of the limited uncertainties.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER MASON,  
Portland Associates,  
Consulting Engineers,  
41 Streatlam High Road, SW16.  
October 20.

## Interpreting trade figures

From Mr Wynne Godley

Sir, According to your first leader (October 22) "the current picture of trade has been a substantial factor so far preventing the recession in the British economy going farther than it has". Another leader on October 17 made the same point even more emphatically. Nothing can be learnt about the consequence of international trade on domestic output from simple inspection of balance of trade figures recording the difference between exports and imports, because imports are themselves so heavily influenced by recession. To gauge the effect of trade on output it is necessary to consider the relationship between exports and import penetration.

In fact, while exports have been pretty well flat, import penetration has clearly been rising: in the third quarter imports of finished manufactures were 4 per cent down on 1979 whereas manufacturing output was down about 11 per cent. At the same time domestic wholesale prices in the third quarter were 19 per cent up on 1979 (roughly in line with costs) whereas export prices for manufactures were only 13 per cent up, implying a severe squeeze on already reduced profit margins with consequential adverse effects on stock building and employment. It seems clear that these negative effects on the economy have greatly exceeded any positive effect of real demand arising from the relative stability of import prices.

I completely agree with your leader that if there were now a sudden collapse in the volume of exports, the effect through the volume of the economy would be catastrophic.

Yours faithfully,  
WYNNE GODLEY,  
University of Cambridge  
(Department of Applied Economics),  
Sidgwick Avenue,  
Cambridge,  
October 22.

## Pricing policy for European air fares

From the Chief Executive of British Airways

Sir, Your leader "Why European flights cost so much" (October 22) displayed a depressing ignorance of its subject.

It is broadly true that fares in Europe are higher—often considerably higher—than in the United States. It is an archaic notion that "the usual defence for such practices is that they ensure that the airlines can cover their costs."

We could well have passed the stage of the so-called "underdeveloped" nations whose desire to have their national airlines at any cost has often been ridiculed by the industrial nations. Yet we seem to be going back to the same thing when we drop them up and do not force them to have open competition.

I do hope Sir Freddie Laker will appeal to the European courts and that the courts will judge in his favour. Yours faithfully,  
R. S. LAW,  
61 Cadogan Square, SW1.  
October 23.

From Mr James Moorhouse, MEP for London South (Conservative)  
Sir, While one can understand Mr Nott's present reluctance to antagonize the national governments of other member states in the Community who, not unnaturally, want to protect their state interests, it is a great pity it comes at a time when the European Parliament has just gone on record, in its debate last week on air transport, as being in favour of more competition in the air. This was no mean achievement, considering the diversity of opinion. Parliamentarians of all parties could clearly see, and agreed, that the present system would have to be liberalized.

At myself said in the Parliament during the debate on the Hoffmann and Schwarzenberg reports (Parliamentary Report, October 17), we do not seek to overturn the air transport market in the Community, but we do seek to make it a great deal more responsive to the needs of the travelling public. For we believe that airlines exist not to symbolize national sovereignty, but to serve the public.

The national air carriers argue in favour of a gradualist evolutionary approach, but when we look at how far this approach has got us in the field of Community transport policy over the last 25 years, we must ask ourselves if it is not a case for adopting a somewhat more radical policy?

Why must we handicap one of our most competent and resourceful industries, and limit the opportunity for people to move more freely around Europe, for fear of jeopardizing our European interests in other directions? Yours faithfully,  
JAMES MOORHOUSE,  
Rill House,  
64 Honnor Oak Road,  
Forest Hill, SE23.  
October 22.

## Transplants dilemma

From Mr A. N. Bowden and others

Sir, We are concerned about the implications of the present programme, "Transplants—are the donors really dead?" It essentially questioned the clinical criteria which have been accepted by many British medical practitioners for the diagnosis of death of the brain stem. Whilst we believe that any criteria should always be subject to critical examination, it is not justified to cast doubt upon them by quoting, from American practice, a number of patients who, though thought at some time by someone to be brain dead, did not fit the criteria which are being questioned. The clinical criteria in use in Britain state clearly that before examination of the various signs required to make the diagnosis of brain stem death, the examining doctors (at least two) must be certain of the following facts:

1. No drugs have been administered.
2. The patient is not in a state of metabolic, or diabetic, coma.
3. There should be no primary hypothermia, such as occurs in cases of drowning.
4. The primary diagnosis must be certain, as based on history or continuous intracerebral haemorrhage.

The patients interviewed should therefore not have been considered as brain stem dead for the following reasons:

1. One patient had been given a muscle relaxant drug.
2. One patient had taken a drug overdose—in this case the diagnosis had apparently been made by a person not medically qualified.
3. One patient was shivering about. Such movement is one of the features which would exclude the possibility of brain stem death. Indeed the patient's wife said, "he doesn't look dead to me."

The 14 survivors in the long-term study of brain death likewise did not meet the necessary criteria: 12

## Royal graves over the water

From Mr Ian Munro

Sir, The Queen's continued interest in the Stuarts buried in the Old Piccadilly, famous in song and legend as Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Cardinal Duke of York, lay of his uncle, who called himself Henry IX of Great Britain, France and Ireland, keeps alive the kind tradition of her Hanoverian forebears who graciously retained a benevolent interest in their unfortunate rivals in the British throne.

Long after the Jacobite disaster of Culloden, when the Stuart cause was hopelessly lost, there still lived in Rome an aged and mild-mannered man, Prince Charles, younger brother Henry. He had shown that he had no intention of trying to recover the lost throne for himself or his descendants, but because he had become a priest and Cardinal, when Napoleon's troops victoriously entered Rome, Henry, Cardinal Duke of York, along with the Pope and everyone else in authority, had to flee for their lives. Henry became an exile and virtually penniless in Venice.

It is at this point we first meet the sign of royal generosity, by which the Stuart cause was continued to the present day. Instead of ignoring or jettisoning a fallen foe, George III quietly arranged for a pension to be paid out of his own private purse to ease the last years of the last direct survivor of the royal Stuart house in dignity. Henry was laid to rest along with his father James, the Old Pretender, and his more famous brother Prince Charles Edward in the crypt of St Peter's in Rome.

London that day, however, partly paid for by George III, was erected in St Peter's, but the graves in the vaults were embedded in thick walls below the great dome with only simple wall tablets to mark the place.

Since the early thirties a feeling of bigness in grow in Vatican circles that the modest Stuart graves should be reconstructed on more dignified lines and the idea found acclaim in exalted circles in the Continent. But it was not until 1961, when the last direct survivor of the Stuart line died, that the idea found favour to fulfill the traditions of which generosity laid down by the British Throne over a century before. It was an offer completely detached from any question of faith or policy, that it was a simple gesture of respect for a fallen foe.

It was a fine end to the life of a man who, in a dignified resting place in the Vatican for the last of the Stuarts, her daughter has just been there. Yours faithfully,  
IAN MUNRO,  
Saddlebush,  
Chippinghild,  
Hampshire.  
October 22.

## The Romans in Britain

From Mr Thomas Pike

Sir, Lord Olivier (October 22) maintains that "the majority of our generation swear among themselves almost without knowing it."

I maintain that he is wrong. My family and circle do not swear, and I am sure that the majority of our generation do not. I met a teacher who used foul language, even in the "toughest" school.

Lord Olivier is confusing nature with art, but that art views life from the left and gets a distorted image. Elderly teachers like me are often reproved by younger colleagues with the words: "You cannot foster your middle-class attitudes upon working-class children"—as though the civilized values which could protect us all were alien to those working-class children—and must remain so.

A little reflection will tell Lord Olivier that the working-class of this country is not so debased as the self-indulgent entertainment industry, which has degraded him, would have us believe. The why cinemas are closing and television sets are being switched off—increasingly. I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
THOMAS PIKE,  
28 Merlin Grove,  
Barnham,  
Kent.  
October 22.

## From Mr J. R. L. Southam

Sir, If the social status of the Roman army are portrayed by the National or any other theatre, I do not give a hoot. But I object strongly in the National Theatre being used to launch an attack on a nationality of the British Army in carrying it into effect. I am staying away from Act II.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
JOHN SOUTHAM,  
107 Ashley Gardens, SW1.  
October 23.

## From Mr E. G. Wright

Sir, The Reverend Eric Lindsay refers (October 21) to the "blackmail" of a possible reduction in grant to the National Theatre and says "such a reduction would be an immoral action."

Presumably those of us who support grants for the arts from public funds do so in the belief that they will contribute to the intellectual and spiritual enrichment of the community. If I am not mistaken, I include (whether mistakenly or not) that this public money is being used to degrade rather than enrich the community. It is then immoral for me to urge that this use of public funds should cease?

Or is it that Mr Lindsay is over-ready to impute immorality to those whose opinions differ from his own? Yours sincerely,  
E. G. WRIGHT,  
63 Southbourne Grove,  
Bournemouth,  
Hampshire.  
October 21.

## Courting success

From Mr Philippa Perks

Sir, Perhaps the marriage flatter, October 21) took place eventually.

Yours faithfully,  
PHILIPPA PERKS,  
2 Highdale Road,  
Cleveland,  
Avon.  
October 22.

## Attacks on the elderly

From Mrs Joan Jonker

Sir, I would be grateful if you would afford me the opportunity of replying to Professor Olive Stevenson (October 17).

The Victims of Violence organization, which was featured in the BBC programme *Men Alive*, has been my sole concern for the last four years. In that time I have visited over a thousand elderly people who have been victims of various types of crime. I have been horrified daily at the suffering and misery, and of the total lack of help given to these people. They are completely ignored by society and no one, from any official source, calls to see if they are in need of help.

I see, every day, elderly defenceless people who have had all their money stolen and are left penniless until their next pension day. They are usually too shocked and distressed after the offence to go and beg for money from the Social Security even if they know that they can do this. I do not accept what Professor Stevenson gives as an excuse for lack of help for the victims, that cutbacks in expenditure in the social services make it unrealistic for us to expect help for them. If there is money available to help the offender then there should be

an equal amount of money available to help the victim.

The plight of the elderly victim of crime is something the whole of society should be aware of, and I am appalled that Professor Stevenson objected to the programme which in my eyes, did not seek to sensationalize, but told the facts. Hundreds of thousands of our elderly citizens across the country live in fear and deprivation because of our lawless society and I believe that unless these facts are made public nothing will be done to solve the problem.

I would suggest that the overwhelming public response to the *Men Alive* programme really answers the professor. We have had hundreds of letters from all over the country, warm, compassionate and eager to help. Many Age Concern visitors have also contacted me to share my concern and they do not share the views expressed in the professor's letter. The grassroots worker, like myself, who sees the pain and suffering at first hand, can be expected to feel more compassion than the administrator who does not visit, nor see the human misery.

Yours etc,  
JOAN JONKER,  
(Organizer, Victims of Violence),  
148 Northway,  
Maghull,  
Merseyside.

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## NEB sells off 20-pc Brown Boveri holding at a loss of £800,000

The results of subsidiaries reveal that the NEE's three electronic and computer systems companies—Inmas, Inscac and Nexos—made a combined six-month loss of £7.8m. Further losses totalling £4.8m were incurred by Data Recording Instrument, Faircity Holdings and other subsidiaries including Alfred Herbert.

The interim results take no account of the proceeds from the sales of the NEB's holdings in Fairley and Ferranti, which were paid directly to the Exchequer.

BL's half-year results, already published, were a pretax loss of £150m on sales of £1,421m, and yesterday's NEB statement disclosed that Rolls-Royce made a six-month loss of £16m, compared with £8m a year earlier.

# Viking trust in £10m rights issue

reduces the issue expenses considerably. In the last decade, the substantial discount of investment trust shares to their net asset values has ruled out large rights issues except for an occasional convertible issue. But demand for Viking's pure energy portfolio has put it in an exceptionally strong position.

Its latest published net asset value of 162p is below last night's share price. It was cal-

Roughly two-thirds of Viking's \$31m portfolio is invested in North American energy stocks. The rest is invested here.

Viking Resources also announced an interim pre-tax profit increase at September 30 of 38.6 per cent to £243,000 yesterday, and declared an interim dividend, for the first time, of 0.57p gross.

## meeting

A crash programme has been put forward which would impose quotas from November 1. These would automatically end on June 30 next year.

Viscount Darnley said the quotas might not solve the problem but they should improve the situation. He admitted that monitoring compliance with the proposed quotas would be hard.

The Council of Ministers approves the imposition of the steel production quotas; it will be the first time the European Commission has intervened in the industry.

In the Commissioner's view the crisis has arisen because of

The result, despite an appeal for voluntary restraint, has been a price-cutting war among Community steel producers which the Commission says is inconsistent to underlining the importance of the EEC.

The quotas would be supplemented by higher levies on imported steel to prevent foreign suppliers from taking advantage of the "manifest crisis".

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**pens way to**

Mr. Borrie said yesterday: "Clearly this is something which should have to be investigated in any future case and the penalties might well in future not only be company fines but fines on or imprisonment of directors."

He also referred to the likelihood of more severe penalties being introduced in cases of undisclosed collusive tendering agreements. Criminal sanctions for such actions have been actively canvassed since recent disclosures of collusion in some construction industry tendering.

document on the issue, Mr. Sorrie said, and on the face of it the case seemed overwhelming to introduce for the first time criminal sanctions into Britain's anti-trust legislation.



## PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Investor's week

## The market easily absorbs ICI's loss

Trust the Treasury to walk out on a party. We had such fun. Not a word about this week but we City folk did more business, and towards the end of the week, we were giving brokers and jobbers nearly £200m worth of business a day. It was just like old times.

Those who study these things regard a volume and climbing share prices suggesting a sustained upswing. We boosted the FT index of 30 leading industries from 481.1 to 495.5 and propelled the all-share index from 297.3 to 315.76.

In this merry mood we took ICI's troubles in our stride. For the first time in its 54 years of history ICI made a loss. In the third quarter of the year the deficit was £10m.

So what? City folk, as they immediately decided that the group was going to maintain its dividend and start picking up profits very soon. Anyway, a cheap share, a little thing like £10m against sales of £1,100m?

There was an answer, but the market needed it not. At the start of the week ICI shares were 336p. At the end they were 336p.

What they made of all this at the Treasury in Great George Street I know not. ICI thought its news so appalling that the directors released it five weeks early, nearly reversing the saw

that bad figures take longer to add up than good.

The Treasury chose the same day, by coincidence, to let us know, ahead of official economic forecasts to be published late next month, that the recession will probably be deeper and longer than expected earlier this year. United Kingdom output, Treasury economists guess, will fall by about 1 per cent; after a fall of more than 2 per cent this year.

The trouble, according to these chaps, is not simply that manufacturing manufacturers will go on until early next year. It is that, once hard-pressed companies finish unbundling stocks, exports could start falling as two years of soaring costs press upon them.

I mention the Treasury fears because investors seem to assume that this business cycle will be like all the others. Traditional wisdom is that the FT index peaks when unemployment climbs to its high and, as if on cue, we learn this week that October jobless reached 1.98 million or 7.3 per cent of the workforce. It was the biggest monthly jump since the end of the war—and the pace still seems to be quickening.

If so the FT index is on its way (if conventional wisdom is right) to 550 and a growing number of charlatans (the chaps who draw graphs of share prices to foretell the future)

agree. But is this cycle like all the others?

If it is, shares are probably cheap and some outstandingly cheap. If it is not, we are in uncharted territory.

Meanwhile, investors again put their money on Mrs Thatcher. Her policies, they said, will bring their money, are working. So why worry about Jousy company news?

Hence we looked forward to ICI's profit recovery. We were relieved that Mothercare kept its profits from falling by more than £2.5m to £8.05m in its first half year, and the shares rose on the week.

British Home Stores did worse than Marks & Spencer in its first six months. Down went pretax profits by 20 per cent.

Christmas holds the key to second-half profits, but who will be turning it, Scrooge or Tiny Tim?

Investors remembered that Marks the week before had talked about customers returning to the shops. BHS shares finished higher on the week.

Down went UBS's interim profits by 58 per cent, suggesting that a maligned total dividend could be uncovered. But it was quickly pointed out that UBS's balance sheet was strong and the shares lost only a few pence.

A Nigerian boom swelled the coffers of Paterson, Zochonis, and Brooke Bond Liebig pegged away steadily. Everyone drinks tea and it has a short shelf life so the group did not fall foul of deposing.

Hawker Siddeley, deep in engineering, actually raised interim profits from £53.1m to £57.2m. But the gain came from abroad.

Elsewhere, electricals and oils powered ahead, taking the all-share index to an all-time high. But there are profits to be had in electricals and a defence cut scare may be just the excuse to take them.

Peter Wainwright

## MAIN CHANGES OF THE WEEK

Year's High	Year's Low	Company	Change	Comment
98p	54p	Coral Leisure	9p to 90p	Bass bid
570p	328p	GEI	35p to 670p	De Zoete seminar
245p	158p	Hawker Siddeley	14p to 242p	Good interim
495p	317p	Int'l Thomson	55p to 377p	The Times to be sold
208p	148p	Saga Hols	25p to 208p	Tourist boom
Falls				
733p	353p	Brook St Bureau	7p to 37p	Int'l fall
243p	188p	Bass	3p to 215p	Coral bid
195p	118p	Gill & Duffus	7p to 183p	Flat outlook
170p	113p	Peacocks	5p to 184p	£8.5m rights
205p	75p	Vesper	22p to 78p	Pit falling

## Taxation

## Starting up and closing down

Normally, self-employed people are taxed on the previous year's basis (see last week's article). This means that if you are self-employed you pay tax on the profits you earned in the accounting period ending in 1979-80. In time of inflation the previous year's basis will generally give the self-employed person a few advantages over the Schedule E employee. The latter pays tax, under the PAYE system, on the income that he is at present receiving.

The choice of an accounting date is obviously important since there is a much longer delay between the income received and tax payment in the following year for an accounting year ending on April 30, compared with an accounting year ending December 31. However, not everybody should automatically choose April 30 as their accounting date since there are other considerations.

The previous year's basis does not always apply. There are three main situations where the basis has to be modified: these are when you start trading (usually referred to as "commencement"), when you cease trading ("discontinuation" or "cessation") and if you change your accounting date.

When you first start a business, a special procedure is necessary. In the period between commencement and the end of the tax year, you are taxed on the profits that you have made during that time. In the following tax year, you are assessed on the profits earned during the first full 12 months of trading and it is only in the next

tax year that you are assessed on the previous year's basis.

Of course, with different starting dates during a year and different year ending dates, patterns of taxation will vary considerably. The table below shows the example of a person who began trading on May 1, 1977 and made up his first accounts to April 30, 1978.

The income for May 1, 1977-April 30, 1978 is calculated by taking the proportion of your income between the start of trading and your first accounting date.

You have the option, during the second and third full tax years after starting to trade, to be taxed on the basis of the actual profits that you earned during those two tax years, instead of the assessments that would be made on the previous year's basis. So in this example, the 1978-79 actual profits would be assessed on the previous year's basis. In 1979-80 profits would be taxed in 1979-80.

As the accounting year ends in this case is not April 5, the assessments would be based on a percentage of the profits in the accounting year, which would be each year in question. In general, it will be worthwhile taking this option if your profits fall during the first three years of trading.

If you choose an accounting date that is not exactly 12 months after you started, the principles are exactly the same, but the arithmetic looks slightly more complicated.

Picking the first accounting date is obviously a crucial decision and will affect the level of your tax liability for several years. So it is essential

to take advice from the very beginning.

Of course, you may wish to keep the same accounting date as the tax year in which you started. The rules for changing your accounting dates are framed so that the change in itself does not lead to a tax advantage or indeed to a greater tax liability.

In principle, the assessment for the year in question is usually made on the 12-month period ending on the new date chosen during the preceding tax year. Then, the Inland Revenue will make an adjustment to the previous assessment in order to make sure that no income is left out of account.

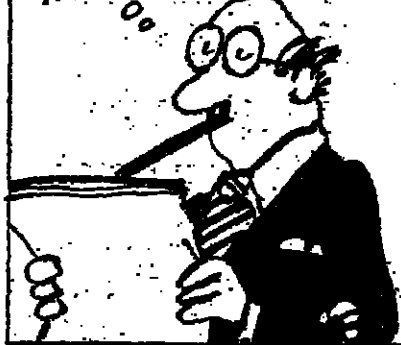
When you finally stop trading the rhythm of the previous year's basis is also interrupted and different rules have to be applied. In the year you stop trading permanently, the tax assessment is based on the profits earned from April 6 until the date you cease to trade. The Inland Revenue will then make additional assessments for the two previous tax years if the total profits you actually earned in those years are greater than the profits on which you have already been assessed on the previous year's basis. In order to avoid this additional assessment, you should try to keep your profits in those two years at the same levels as the profits in the two earlier years.

If you are contemplating turning your business into a limited company, or ending and either closing down or selling your business, there could be an additional income tax liability that you were not anticipating and, again, it is essential to take advice as early as possible—when you are formulating your plans rather than executing them.

Danby Bloch and Raymond Godfrey

## HOFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH

HERE'S ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE SURVEYS ABOUT INFLATION AFFECTING TYPICAL FAMILIES...



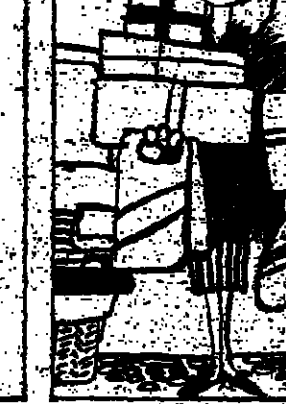
HOW ON EARTH DO THEY ARRIVE AT THESE FIGURES?



AND... WHY IS IT THEY NEVER COME TO INTERVIEW...



MY WIFE!



BY ROSS



## Building societies

## Champion of the common man

Building society "folk heroes" are rare; the movement does not breed them often. It usually produces the good, sound men—and regrettably, women—who, with a lifetime of service behind them, do sterling work, but within the established confines of building society practice.

Developing and putting into operation new ideas and theories traditionally makes enemies as well as friends. Mr Clive Thornton, chief general manager of the Abbey National Building Society, has, within the mere 18 months since he took up office, managed to irritate and upset other building society leaders and the industry's close associates, survivors and solicitors, who have implemented one radical idea after another.

Mr Thornton's enthusiasm is contagious. An attacking Tynesider, his background has put an irrevocable stamp upon his building society. In his view, are in business to lend money to the middle-classes, "which is completely different to what we want to do in this society".

He is not criticizing his rivals, but stating an understandable fact. "The industry's never had enough money; and in these circumstances it's natural to lend to grade one borrowers, buying a grade one property. But, he continues, "I don't think the industry started on these principles."

The search for these mislaid, some may think irrelevant principles has taken the Abbey National deep into the inner city areas, which not all that long ago critics of the industry defined as "no-go" areas for building societies.

It is now actively involved in 92 of the 200 odd officially designated "housing action areas" with a £5m this year (£6m next) lending programme for home improvements available to all who dwell there, be they tenants, landlords, mortgagees or existing owners. It probably costs less to help five borrowers this way, than it does to finance one to move out, points out Mr Thornton, adding that "to have no policy at all is to destroy these communities".

Of course other building

societies are interested and active in urban renewal, but what makes Abbey's programme interesting is seeing it in the context of the society's actions on other fronts: not least its row with the Government and other building society leaders over Abbey's own granty bonds.

"We cannot allow our finances to be drained off," says Mr Thornton. "We need all the money we can get our hands on". His angry response to the extension of index-linked savings has already pulled in £25m and he is unapologetic about the impact his solo campaign to preserve Abbey's funds may have elsewhere.

Housing action area schemes and granty bonds are just two of ten innovations which Mr Thornton has masterminded since he emerged, rather unexpectedly, as chief general manager of the Abbey in March, 1979.

A solicitor, he trained with the Cooperative Permanent (now the Nationwide Building Society) and then did a stint with the Ramboys, Mr Pat Matthews and his First National Finance Corporation before moving back to an industry which he feels has

soul or at least "a sense of purpose".

He rejoined the building society movement in 1967 as solicitor at Abbey National and became a protégé of the late Sir Stanley Morgan, who when he was chief general manager was known for his advanced views on building society development.

In occasional articles and speeches he advocated, for example, that societies should move into the private purchase business and become involved in the rented sector. Mr Thornton, it transpires, created the themes and wrote the speeches. So the ideas and developments that have been pouring out of Abbey National in the last 18 months are not all instant happenings; some have been in the crucible for a long time.

Some of his innovations, such as the "open bond" share launched last June with the purpose of keeping term-share money once the original term expired—are extensions of building society thinking.

But most of the ten schemes he has pioneered to date, and those in the pipeline, represent a significant departure from traditional building society practice.

The most radical of these, perhaps, is the Abbey Housing Association which came into being this spring and unequivocally takes the building society movement into the rental housing market. In conjunction with the Greater London Council, Abbey is building for rent, taking advantage of the short-term provisions of the new Housing Act, a total of 250 units in Tower Hamlets, Islington and Southwark.

Work has begun in Tower Hamlets while the Southwark scheme has been opened to an architectural competition for energy conservation.

In September, Abbey National launched the popularity of home buyers up and down the country who have for years complained that they could not have a right of the building society's survey of their intended property. The fact of opposition from a surrogate Abbey National now makes this valuation available. And in Scotland, existing owner-occupiers can have a copy of the valuation report to use in their own negotiations when they put their house up for sale.

The other big grievance of house buyers—the cost of conveyancing—is high on Mr Thornton's list of changes. Rather than allow two conveyancers, he is trying to get approval from the Law Society about his plans, where Abbey National already holds the title deeds of the house, for the mortgage to be passed on, by way of Abbey's own solicitors, without further investigation into what has already been proved to be a perfectly good title.

While the Law Society rummages upon this proposal, the Inland Revenue is sitting on another idea of his in offer a bonus as a prize in a regular Abbey lottery.

Elsewhere one of the country's largest house builders has been given a proposal to study that the building society should guarantee to buy, at a small discount, any houses remaining unsold from a programme of new building starts. Such houses, Mr Thornton points out, could be absorbed into Abbey's rental portfolio.

Abbey's radical expansion is not confined to this country. Within weeks of Mr Thornton taking office, Abbey opened its first branch office overseas, in Brussels. This week plans were finalized whereby Abbey will act as the society's agents in two military bases in Germany from next January.

And as legislation extending building societies' freedom to operate overseas has been postponed, Mr Thornton has advocated, for lending institutions about reciprocal arrangements and has also begun to consider the possibility of a subsidiary of associated company operating overseas now that the procedure for a building society corporate company has been established with the Abbey Housing Association.

Far from slackening Abbey's momentum under Mr Thornton seems to be gathering space. Whether his influence will be confined to this one society alone or spread to the rest of the movement, remains to be seen.

Margaret Stone

## Canine investment adviser at Great Grimpen

The half-finished account of the latest Great Grimpen Mire Investment Club Committee meeting has already indicated the possibility of greater involvement in non-Stock Exchange securities such as gold, works of art and the like.

Regular readers will recall that the story was left hanging at a crucial moment, the committee being divided between the traditionalists and the radicals, with a hard core of don't-knows in the middle consisting of Lady Baskerville, Agatha Sibling and Ada Blott.

However, even more regular readers will recall that these three ladies have been caught with the notion that, because of a psychic intervention by the Hound of the Baskervilles himself, Lady Baskerville's pet dachshund, Poggles, a large proportion of the funds of the Great Grimpen Mire Investment Club ought to be invested in sugar futures.

Such was not, however, by then apparent to either of the male protagonists groups which were struggling innocently with locked antlers over the whole



question. At this particular juncture Miss Sibling caught the chairman's eye. Miss Sibling, Hon Secretary, is a universal aunt and a universal cousin—being connected by ties of blood or marriage to practically everybody.

Her nephew, Adrian Linstwort, of merchant bankers, Wolfenden Linstwort, has been theatrically responsible for the investment management of the portfolio to date, with no outstanding success, one could safely say, the value of funds under management having declined from £120,000 to £80,000 under his jurisdiction.

"I think I ought to draw the committee's attention to the situation at Wolfenden Linstwort's, our portfolio managers," said Miss Sibling.

"Unfortunately there has been a serious internal dispute within the bank. On the one side is the nineteenth century faction led by Adrian himself whose family were friends of Diarrell's and all that. Against him are pitted the eighteenth century faction of Moses de Wolfenden very much of the tough and toughie school of commerce."

"The pressure of argument grew so great that the actual business of the bank was left to lie fallow—hence, through no fault of my nephew's, I'm sure, our portfolio valuation has shrunk by a third in the last two months."

"We have now been advised by Mr de Wolfenden, who I regret to say has apparently carried the day in the internal battle for control, that since our holdings were valued at less than the bank's minimum of £100,000 they had themselves unable to act as our managers any longer. He therefore asks us to consider our investment funds from their point of view as soon as possible."

but then thought better of it. "Well damn me," muttered Sam Spenser, "I couldn't mind either of 'em."

Captain George Berwinson, feeling that things were getting out of his control as chairman, tried to impose some kind of sanity on the meeting. "Probably there should be an interim period," he said, "before we decide what to do in the circumstances. Has anyone any suggestions?"

"As a matter of fact I have a very good one," chimed in Lady Baskerville, "something I've been thinking of playing under the name of 'Poggles' made everything very clear to several of us here, as Ada Blott has mentioned already. What we ought to be in is sugar futures, according to Poggles' theory, we should have a series of horror. How convenient, beamed Agatha Sibling. "Now that he's left the bank, Adrian is going to set up as a commodity broker. It must be seen."

The vicar cleared his throat.

Francis Kinsman

## Earnings-related invalidity pensions • Recovering hire car costs

Could you please tell me whether a person in receipt of an invalidity pension is entitled to have his weekly amount linked to the most recent salary payment? The person concerned (my wife) has been obliged to give up her teaching post through illness (JW, Dyfed).

Provided that the National Insurance contribution requirements are met, invalidity pensions in addition to the flat rate benefit, now include an earnings-related element but it is not linked to the most recent salary payment. As the arrangements began only in April, 1978, the amount of earnings-related benefit is as yet fairly small.

The method of calculation is rather complicated, but in principle it is related to earnings between the "lower earnings level" and the "upper earnings level", which in 1978/79 were £17.50 and £120 a week, for 1979/80 they increased to £19.50 and £135 a week. The earnings between these limits for a year, other than the most recent one, are adjusted for the change in national average earnings to preserve their value in real terms. The earnings related element (until the scheme has been running for 20 years) is

11 per cent of this total adjusted amount. Only complete fiscal years up to the date the invalidity pension begins are allowed to count towards the calculation of its amount. Once the earnings-related element starts to be paid, it qualifies for increases annually in line with the cost of living index. The level of the flat-rate element is, of course, also reviewed annually.

I am, or at least my car is, a victim of criminal damage. I have been wondering if anybody can advise me.

Eleven weeks ago my car was the receiver of over £1,500 worth of damage after a police chase of a stolen car driven by two men who had made an attempted bank robbery. The stolen car crashed into mine, which was parked at the roadside and, thankfully, nobody was hurt.

In consultation with my insurance company, the police and my solicitor, I find I cannot receive any financial compensation towards the hire costs of another vehicle which is essential for my work. The final bill for these costs will be total over £466.

My insurance company has agreed to pay the damage costs, with reservations, but I am worried about the other sum as this means I have to sacrifice the much needed interest from my savings. As the criminals are without money or possessions the police say it would be like drawing blood from a stone and taking them to court will only cost me a considerable amount.

I must be one of hundreds of similar cases and it would be comforting to know just what help might be available. I understand, too late, that there are only a few insurance companies which will insure for this particular liability and, for the future, it would be helpful

to know which they are. (K. T. Tunbridge).

Unfortunately, you are quite right in appreciating that there is really nothing helpful which you can do on this occasion. For the future, many insurers are not at all keen to cover the extra cost (to effect hire costs) if they do not have the basic motor insurance. Since they would have no control over the length of time which the repairs to the car would take.

Try your own insurance company for a start. The General Accident is a matter of course, provides for the free use of a Godfrey Davis hire car for up to a fortnight at no extra cost under its motor policy. You might find it worth changing

This specialist readers service has been compiled with the help of Ronald Irving, John Drummond and Tony Foreman

to the General Accident. St Christopher Motorists' Security Association offers this cover as part of a "package" of extra insurance for motorists. Normally, a claim for the hire car will not be paid for longer than about a month.

I was most interested to read the reply given to RS. Bath on your page (August 16) regarding single premium life insurance policies and would be grateful if you could explain the position as regards my own situation.

I invested £1,000 in a single premium policy in May, 1976, and have taken out four annual withdrawals of £100 each. I have recently been advised that the surrender value of the policy is approximately £500 and I would therefore make an overall loss if I should cash the policy in now.

I would be grateful if you could inform me as to how the relief mentioned in your reply would apply in my case. (JPS, Chelmsford).

We assume that, when making your four annual withdrawals of £100 each (as each exceeded 5 per cent of the initial amount of capital invested) you

were not paying higher rate tax, or investment income surcharge, and these withdrawals did not bring you into that bracket. In that case it would appear that you have no tax to pay, and, equally, no relief can be claimed. The "relief" to which you refer applies to the method of calculating the tax payable. It does not mean that tax can be reclaimed in any way when realization of a single premium policy results in an investment loss.

Can a donee accepting a gift make use of his or her £3,000 exemption if he or she sells the asset which has been transferred under the "roll-over" exemption? This would seem to be logical, if the intention is to bring it into line with transfers made on death. The liability to pay the tax on a further disposal must surely be linked to the circumstances at the time of that disposal and not to the position of the donee at the time of the original disposal. For example, there might be a lower or higher rate of capital gains tax if I am right in thinking that it is the position of the donee that counts, does this

mean that a gift of a house or flat to a son or daughter for occupation as a main residence would be exempt if it were to be disposed of after transfer, at the time of the second disposal, it was in use by the donee as the main residence. This is an important point because the only means of such a transfer at the moment is by division of the property into "shares", which are then transferred at a rate of one share each year to take account of the donor's exemption. Again, if I am right, what happens in the case of a donee who then goes to work overseas? Can he presumably "escape" gains tax even if they sell their total holding, provided they are "not normally resident" for tax purposes? (SS, Riddingham).

It is now possible for a woman making the gift of her husband to elect jointly that the asset should be transferred at no gain or loss to the donor, with the donee taking over the donor's base cost for capital gains tax liability to capital gains tax. This is a new provision on the position of the donee at the time when the subsequently makes a disposal.

If the donee has not made flat to a son or daughter for occupation as a main residence, then the £3,000 annual exemption applies. Similarly, if the property consists of a lease and by the donee's sole or joint residence throughout his period of ownership, then the gain arising to him will be exempt.

One word of warning: the new relief for gifts applies only if the donee is resident or ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom at the time of the gift. However, it is subsequently "deemed" to be resident in the United Kingdom and becomes neither resident nor ordinarily resident, then no capital gains tax may be charged on a disposal at such a time. On the question of residence, and so on, you should obtain a copy of the Inland Revenue booklet IR20: Residence and Non-Residence: Liability to UK Tax. It is interesting to note that in Canada there is an "exit" tax, a deemed capital gain is chargeable when a person ceases to be ordinarily resident in Canada. But capital gains tax is still of no use to him, if, ever, were reformed and made "logical", some similar rules might be introduced.

prints to renew

trust sale september

Base Rates

Over-the-Ceiling



EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Points to watch at renewal time

Motor insurance

At the anniversary of your policy, you are thinking of renewing it. It is important to see that the policy is renewed on the same terms as the old one. If you are not sure, you should ask your broker to explain the terms of the new policy. If you are not sure, you should ask your broker to explain the terms of the new policy.

Stock markets Institutional buying boosts equities

Further calls for a cut in the M.L.R. have been made by the market, and account profit taking before the start of the advance yesterday.

Strong institutional buying was again reported in equities, including leading industrial shares. The I.C.I. came in for particular notice. This followed Thursday's statement on third-quarter losses. Jobbers claim there are new two-way orders, but the fact will not necessarily appear on your certificate of insurance. Dig out the policy and see what it says. It could be very different from the one you are looking at.

Strong pound hits Bercel Group's half-year profits

By Our Financial Staff

Bercel Group, the Ever Ready batteries company, has boosted exports by 50 per cent in its first half. But the strong pound has left margins almost non-existent.

So its figures have swung back to the heavy seasonal bias that characterized the company's figures before its expansion into overseas markets. For the 26 weeks to August 30, pre-tax profits rose slightly from £3.1m to £3.2m, and the board expects the full-year figure to be "broadly similar" to last year's £17.2m, implying some £14m in the second half.



Mr. C. G. Stapleton, chairman and chief executive of Bercel Group.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int. or Fin.	11.1 (198.5)	3.2 (5.15)	1.5 (2.05)	1.1 (1.3)	1.1 (1.3)	1.1 (1.3)
Burgess Bros (F)	24.8 (22.5)	1.1 (1.1)	0.4 (0.4)	0.4 (0.4)	0.4 (0.4)	0.4 (0.4)
John Crowther (I)	2.3 (3.1)	0.5 (0.5)	0.1 (0.1)	0.1 (0.1)	0.1 (0.1)	0.1 (0.1)
John Smith (I)	1.1 (1.1)	0.1 (0.1)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)
W. & A. G. (I)	8.2 (7.85)	0.5 (0.5)	0.1 (0.1)	0.1 (0.1)	0.1 (0.1)	0.1 (0.1)
G. & C. (I)	2.3 (2.3)	0.1 (0.1)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)
Lowland Drapery (I)	2.3 (2.3)	0.1 (0.1)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)
Scotts European (I)	2.3 (2.3)	0.1 (0.1)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)
British Sec (I)	2.3 (2.3)	0.1 (0.1)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)
E. Union (I)	2.3 (2.3)	0.1 (0.1)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)
Websters (I)	12.7 (11.1)	0.1 (0.1)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)

Central & Sheerwood slumps

By Michael Prest

Central & Sheerwood, the group whose interests range from engineering to the retail trade, has reported a sharp fall in profits in its first half to the end of June £130m, against £218m for the same period of last year. The dividend has been maintained at 10p.

Trading profits were markedly lower in all sectors except engineering where they rose by £43,000 to £221m. What depressed pre-tax profits so much, however, was an increase in losses of £149m, up from £83,000.

Spirax-Sarco down slightly at interim

By Our Financial Staff

Spirax-Sarco Engineering, which specializes in energy conservation equipment, has held its own against the recession, the steel strike and the pound with interim profits only marginally down.

In the six months to June 30, pre-tax profits fell from £2.5m to £2.3m, but turnover rose from £18.7m to £20.4m. Trading profits were up from £3.2m to £3.3m, but interest charges took £461,000 against £285,000.

John Drummond

Mr Moran explains refusal to resign

By Our Financial Staff

In a letter to shareholders of the Lloyd's of London insurance broker Christopher Moran Group, former chief executive Mr Christopher Moran says his refusal to bow to board pressure and resign as director while his activities were under investigation stems from his belief that, without his assistance, the major part of the company's business will disappear.

The letter, sent yesterday, follows a resolution by the other directors to remove Mr Moran from the board. This will be put to shareholders at an extraordinary meeting on October 31.

Reed International to buy carton maker

Reed International and J. Dring have agreed terms for Reed to acquire Dring and its subsidiaries for £5.8m cash.

The board of Dring is unanimously recommending acceptance of the offer. The board also recommends that shareholders of Dring should accept the offer in respect of their own shareholdings. Dring, a private company based at Portsmouth, is engaged predominantly in the production of folding cartons, and will operate as part of Field, Sons and Co., Reed's carton subsidiary.

Trust sales peak September

has been the best of this year for sales trusts, according to a survey by the Unit Association.

Month-jumped to £25m on the 1st of September, up from £18.8m in August. The figure is based on the sales of trusts to investors.

Base Rates

Bank	Rate
Bank of England	16%
Bank of Ireland	16%
Bank of Scotland	16%
Bank of Wales	16%
Bank of Cyprus	16%
Bank of Greece	16%
Bank of India	16%
Bank of Japan	16%
Bank of Persia	16%
Bank of Siam	16%
Bank of the East	16%
Bank of the Middle East	16%
Bank of the West	16%

Record rise at American Brands

American Brands' net income rose by 26 per cent from \$256.2m (£104.5m) to a record \$322.1m in the first nine months to September 30.

But after United Kingdom tax relief, down from \$27.9m to \$6.8m, net income in the third quarter slipped from \$114.5m to \$113.5m.

Commodities

RUBBER closed higher today, up 1/2 cent to 11.10. The market was steady, with a slight upward bias.

COFFEE closed higher today, up 1/4 cent to 1.10. The market was steady, with a slight upward bias.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

The Over-the-Counter Market

Company	Price	Change	Volume
Airbus Group	41	-1	6.7
Armstrong & Rhodes	23	-2	1.4
Bardon Hill	175	-1	9.7
County Cars Pref	71	-3	15.3
Deborah Ord	95	-5	5.8
Frank Horsell	117	-1	7.9
Frederick Parker	65	-1	11.0
George Blair	79	-1	3.1
Jackson Group	65	-1	3.0
James Burroughs	120	-1	9.7
Robert Jenkins	120	-1	9.7
Torley Limited	217	-1	15.1
Twinkl Ord	104	-1	7.0
Twinkl 15% ULS	82	-1	15.0
Uniflow Holdings	39	-1	3.0
Walter Alexander	98	-1	5.7
W. S. Yeates	238	-2	12.4

Conoco sharply lower

Conoco's third-quarter earnings fell to \$307.4m from \$347.1m last year, a 14 per cent drop.

Mr Ralph E. Bailey, the chairman, attributed the earnings decline mainly to foreign petroleum operations and to the impact of the economic recession of chemicals operations.

Eurosyndicat

The Eurosyndicat Index on European share prices was put provisionally at 149.36 on October 23 against 147.44 a week earlier.



## Value for money in proper tendering

## Foreign exchange report

weekend as a precaution against possible repercussions should the Iranian hostages be released. Bankers of England intervention was again only modest, dealers said.

The pound lost the bulk of sharp one-time gains, ending only slightly better in terms of the mark. 4.553 (4.547) and the guilder, 4.930 (4.9250), while finishing a touch lower against the French franc, 10.4750 (10.4775).

However, it did better against the Swiss franc, 4.0875 (4.0675).

## Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range)	Market rates (close)	1 month	3 months
	October 24	October 24		
New York	\$2.4795-46.00	\$2.4795-46.00	1.45-1.35c prem	1.40-1.35c prem
Montreal	\$2.4795-46.00	\$2.4795-46.00	1.25-1.15c prem	1.20-1.10c prem
Amsterdam	4.92-93.01	4.92-93.01	94-94c prem	94-94c prem
Brussels	72.85-73.65f	72.85-73.65f	94-94c prem	94-94c prem
Frankfurt	1.0300-20.00p	1.0300-20.00p	425-270c prem	425-270c prem
Dublin	1.0300-20.00p	1.0300-20.00p	26-17p prem	26-17p prem
Frankfurt	4.54-61m	4.54-61m	94-94c prem	94-94c prem
Lisbon	127.50-133.50p	127.50-133.50p	5-6p prem	5-6p prem
Madrid	127.50-133.50p	127.50-133.50p	5-6p prem	5-6p prem
Milan	2156-74f	2157-55f	5-6p prem	5-6p prem
Oslo	11.20-11.30k	11.20-11.30k	94-94c prem	94-94c prem
Stockholm	10.25-10.35k	10.25-10.35k	94-94c prem	94-94c prem
Tokyo	518-520	518-520	94-94c prem	94-94c prem
Zurich	4.08-12f	4.08-12f	94-94c prem	94-94c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to December 31, 1971, was 78.8% up 0.3%

## Other Markets

Australia	2.0885-2.1005
Bahrain	0.8225-0.8235
Finland	0.0915-0.1916
Greece	103.85-105.85
Hongkong	12.408-12.446
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.6543-0.6875
Malaysia	3.2195-5.2495
Mexico	55.6-57.1
New Zealand	2.2495-2.5045
Saudi Arabia	5.077-8.137
Singapore	5.1073-5.109
South Africa	1.831-1.846

## Wall Street

[illegible][illegible]

Burrpines	33	52%	Johns-Manville	26	70%	Texas Inst.	22	133%
Campbell Soup	214	52%	Johnson & John	79	71	Texas Utilities	16	161%
Canadian Pacific	44	34%	Kaiser Aluminum	28	27	Tetrapharm	18	181%
Caterpillar	88	38%	Kennecott	30	30	TWA	18	181%
Celconex	39	49%	Kerr-McGee	37	36	Travelers Corp.	63	631%
Central Soya	18	18	Kimberly Clark	50	50	TRW Inc.	20	201%
Chesebrough	43	43%	K & M	21	21	UAL Inc.	20	191%
Chem Bank NY	404	404%	Kroger	21	21	Yellow Corbide	47	471%
				15	15	Yellow Corp.	47	471%

[illegible][illegible]

## US commodities

[illegible]

4 Traded, 7 Unquoted.			
Foreign exchange—Sterling, spot	943.60	943.50	943.51
34.4300 (12.5555); three months,	975.97	975.85	975.98
1.1774 (11.1699); Canadian dollar,	71.53	71.52	71.53
The Dow Jones stock commodity in-			
dex was 905.90 (905.77). The	74.90	74.89	74.91
The Dow Jones averages—Indus-	73.52	73.51	73.53
Financial, 67.14 (67.29).	68.44	68.43	68.45
\$4.00 at \$2.161 while March stock			
BEAN Oil under unchanged to 0.			

[illegible]

July 41-90c; 41-95c; Sept. 38-60c; Oct. 36-75c; 35-80c; Jan. 35-54c; March 32-25c; 32-40c; CHICAGO SOYBEANS closed 13 cents higher; 14 cents higher in deferred months; Nov. 51 1/2c; Jan. 50-28c; March 50-51c; May 49-13c; July 48-77c; Aug. 46-95c; Sept. 48-81c; Nov. 45-51c; 45-51c; SOYSALES

## indices

	Bank of England Index	Norcan Guaranty Changes $\frac{L_2}{L_1}$
Steeling . . .	84.7	-28.8
US dollar . . .	78.9	-9.1
Canadian dollar . . .	80.7	-17.3
Schilling . . .	151.6	-22.3
Belgian franc . . .	116.5	-12.0
Danish kroner . . .	104.1	-6.1
Deutsche mark . . .	150.1	-4.4
Swiss franc . . .	196.0	+81.0
Guilder . . .	124.7	-19.1
French franc . . .	89.6	-6.6
Lira . . .	51.6	-82.2
Yen . . .	135.4	+32.9

(Bank of England index 100).

## Dollar

Rates	
* Ireland	2.0070-2.0100
* Canada	1.1879-1.1883
Netherlands	2.0190-2.0210
Belgium	29.57-29.83
Denmark	5.7220-5.7240
* Germany	1.8650-1.8660
Portugal	50.78-50.88
Spain	74.84-74.88
Italy	884.50-885.00
Norway	4.9180-4.9200
France	4.2980-4.2990
Sweden	4.2130-4.2140
Japan	212.30-212.70
Australia	13.50-13.22
India	1.6140-1.6155

\* Ireland quoted in US currency  
† Canada \$1 : US 50.8559-0.8562

## Money Market

# Rates

Bank of England MLR 16%  
(Last changed 3/7/84)  
Clearing Banks Base Rate 16%  
Discount MLR 16%  
Weekend High 15%      Low 15%  
Week Fixed: 16-15%

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying	Selling
2 months 14 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> %	2 months 14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> %
3 months 14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> %	3 months 14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> %

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months 15 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> -15 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> %	3 months 15%
3 months 15 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> -15%	4 months 15 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> %

Local Authority Bonds

## EMS Currency Rates

	ECU current currency	current against ECU	% change from central rate <sup>a</sup>	% change adjusted <sup>b</sup>	divergence limit <sup>c</sup> plus/minus
Belgian franc	39,787	40,553 <sup>d</sup>	+2.67	+1.39	1.53
Danish krone	7,2326	7,2326	0.00	0.00	1.64
German D-mark	2,48358	2,58459	+4.02	+1.15	1.55
French franc	6,5596	6,559765	+0.01	-0.31	1,2597
Dutch guilder	2,74322	2,77505	+1.15	-0.20	1,512
Irish punt	0,66263	0,670314	+1.16	-0.85	1,655
Italian lire	1,157,79	1,215,74	+4.93	+3.48	4,60

a: changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.

b: adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.

c: maximum permitted by the Treaty.

d: rounded up by the Bank of England.

## Foreign Deposits

Gold fixed: am. \$628.00 (an ounce)  
pm. \$633.90 close. \$632.50.  
Kruggerand (per coin): \$652-6  
(\$268.50-267.50).  
Sovereigns (new): \$159-161 (U  
\$65.00).

## Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1979-80	1978-79	1977-78	1976-77	1975-76	1974-75	1973-74	1972-73	1971-72	1970-71	1969-70	1968-69	1967-68	1966-67	1965-66	1964-65	1963-64	1962-63	1961-62	1960-61	1959-60	1958-59	1957-58	1956-57	1955-56	1954-55	1953-54	1952-53	1951-52	1950-51	1949-50	1948-49	1947-48	1946-47	1945-46	1944-45	1943-44	1942-43	1941-42	1940-41	1939-40	1938-39	1937-38	1936-37	1935-36	1934-35	1933-34	1932-33	1931-32	1930-31	1929-30	1928-29	1927-28	1926-27	1925-26	1924-25	1923-24	1922-23	1921-22	1920-21	1919-20	1918-19	1917-18	1916-17	1915-16	1914-15	1913-14	1912-13	1911-12	1910-11	1909-10	1908-09	1907-08	1906-07	1905-06	1904-05	1903-04	1902-03	1901-02	1900-01	1899-00	1898-99	1897-98	1896-97	1895-96	1894-95	1893-94	1892-93	1891-92	1890-91	1889-90	1888-89	1887-88	1886-87	1885-86	1884-85	1883-84	1882-83	1881-82	1880-81	1879-80	1878-79	1877-78	1876-77	1875-76	1874-75	1873-74	1872-73	1871-72	1870-71	1869-70	1868-69	1867-68	1866-67	1865-66	1864-65	1863-64	1862-63	1861-62	1860-61	1859-60	1858-59	1857-58	1856-57	1855-56	1854-55	1853-54	1852-53	1851-52	1850-51	1849-50	1848-49	1847-48	1846-47	1845-46	1844-45	1843-44	1842-43	1841-42	1840-41	1839-40	1838-39	1837-38	1836-37	1835-36	1834-35	1833-34	1832-33	1831-32	1830-31	1829-30	1828-29	1827-28	1826-27	1825-26	1824-25	1823-24	1822-23	1821-22	1820-21	1819-20	1818-19	1817-18	1816-17	1815-16	1814-15	1813-14	1812-13	1811-12	1810-11	1809-10	1808-09	1807-08	1806-07	1805-06	1804-05	1803-04	1802-03	1801-02	1800-01	1799-00	1798-99	1797-98	1796-97	1795-96	1794-95	1793-94	1792-93	1791-92	1790-91	1789-90	1788-89	1787-88	1786-87	1785-86	1784-85	1783-84	1782-83	1781-82	1780-81	1779-80	1778-79	1777-78	1776-77	1775-76	1774-75	1773-74	1772-73	1771-72	1770-71	1769-70	1768-69	1767-68	1766-67	1765-66	1764-65	1763-64	1762-63	1761-62	1760-61	1759-60	1758-59	1757-58	1756-57	1755-56	1754-55	1753-54	1752-53	1751-52	1750-51	1749-50	1748-49	1747-48	1746-47	1745-46	1744-45	1743-44	1742-43	1741-42																																	
Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized Unit Trusts	Authorized 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Wrighton. We are sorry for the error.







